



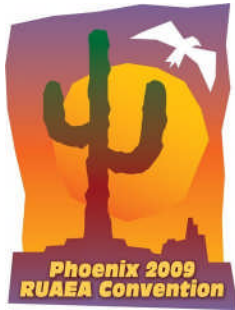
Retired United Airlines Employees Association NEWSLETTER

WWW.RUAEA.ORG



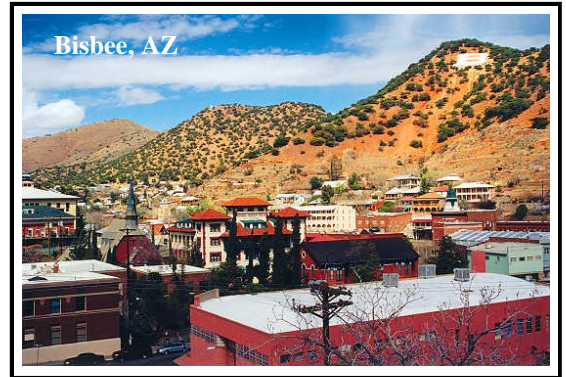
ISSUE NO. 415

MARCH-2009



***RUAEA Convention,
May 17 - 24, 2009
Phoenix, Arizona***

***Welcome all
RUAEA friends to
"The Valley of the Sun"!***



Plans for the RUAEA Convention 2009 are nearly completed and Phoenix RUAEA members are excited with the anticipation of welcoming you to our great city and state. We are anxious to show off our beautiful downtown area with its fine restaurants, great arts, cultural venues, our modern sports venues and great nightlife. We are especially excited to have you "***Discover the Natural Wonders of Arizona***" via the great selection of tours that have been arranged for your stay.

If you choose to take a **city tour**, you will be able to see highlights of our great city, such as ***Carefree, Oldtown Scottsdale*** with its beautiful art galleries and shops selling Native American Arts and Crafts, ***Tempe***, the home of Arizona State University, the ***U.S. Airways Center*** and the ***State Capital***.

Or you may choose a trip to ***Montezuma's Castle***, an ancient Indian dwelling carved out of a limestone cliff and ***Jerome***, a mining town bringing millions of dollars in copper, gold and silver from its depths. Today, Jerome is alive with writers, artisans, musicians and historians.

Or maybe you would just like to relax in the warm Arizona sunshine. If so, you might choose the ***"Tortilla Flats & Dolly Steamboat Cruise."*** The tour begins with a visit to the Superstition Mountain Museum where you will hear about the "Lost Dutchman" and the lost gold mines. Enjoy some great BBQ in the old west town of Tortilla Flats, once a stagecoach stop in 1904. Cruise Canyon Lake on the Dolly Steamboat, a beautiful 90 minute nature cruise you don't want to miss.

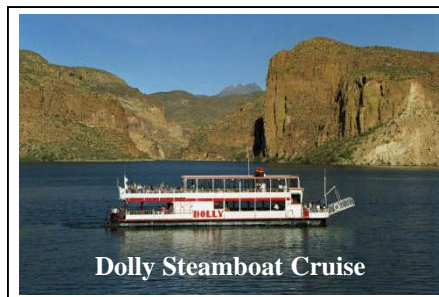
If you are looking to get away at the end of the convention, you might consider a two day trip to the ***Grand Canyon***. Stop en route in Sedona where you will be able to browse the numerous boutiques and restaurants. One never tires of the Red Rocks and spectacular views in Sedona. On Day 2, visit the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, one of the most spectacular national parks in our great nation.

For those of you interested in tales of the Wild West, there is a 2 day tour to ***Tombstone, Bisbee*** and the ***San Pedro Valley***. Tour Bisbee, the county seat of historic Cochise County and then head to Tombstone, known for the historic Gunfight at O.K. Corral. And finally, visit Elgin known as Arizona's "Wine Country." Here you will have a wine tour, tasting and picnic lunch.

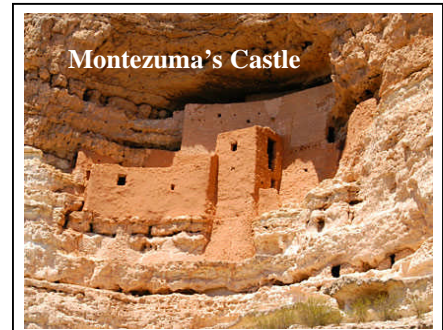
These are just a sampling of the many tours that will allow you to ***"Discover the Wonders of Arizona"***.

So don't hesitate. Go to www.ruaea.org to get all the details of the 2009 RUAEA Convention. You will be able to find your registration forms, all tour information, hotel reservation information and all the details to plan your vacation in Arizona.

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Dolly Steamboat Cruise



Montezuma's Castle

GENERAL NEWS

WWW.RUAEA.ORG

From The Executive Vice President



By the time most of you read this, it will be only two months until the RUAEA Convention in Phoenix takes place. This will be my 13th convention and I am looking forward to the activities and re-acquainting with co-workers and friends from the past. The convention is a wonderful time to spend time with others from the United family. Although the convention covers a seven day period, most attendees attend

for a shorter time. Tours are offered and a schedule of activities was in the February 2009 Newsletter. The highlights are the Friendship Dinner on Friday night and the Banquet on Saturday. The cost may seem high at \$40.00 per person, but remember, this is a three course dinner with entertainment. Also, the cost includes all taxes, gratuities and any service charges.

Also, there are two meetings on Saturday morning, one being the RUAEA Business Meeting, where members hear from the various officers regarding the affairs and status of the organization. The second meeting, which is of much interest to all the members, is the Benefits and Programs panel. Representatives from various benefits or program providers are present and give an overview of their areas. These same people are available later in the day to discuss individual issues on a one-on-one basis. To name a few, representatives are from: The Retiree Benefits Department of UA (pensions, travel, medical, etc), Medco, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Vision Care, Alliant Credit Union, the PBGC, and investment consultants. These sessions are always informative and helpful to our members. This meeting is usually followed by the distribution of many door prizes, which is another incentive to attend. I am sure Phoenix will be another great convention! Hopefully, you will consider attending ... I know once you get there, you will have a very enjoyable time. Be sure to check out the Convention package in the February 2009 Newsletter. There are several suggestions regarding alternate means of transportation to and from Phoenix besides United. We do get benefits on most other airlines! Hope to see you during the 2009 RUAEA Convention, May 17-24, in Phoenix.

On a separate note, we are pleased to announce a

new chapter in Florida, *The Villages*. Well, it is kind of a new chapter. **The Citrus Groupers, The Villages** and the **Ocala** groups were experiencing dwindling attendance and were struggling to stay "afloat". At a recent luncheon/meeting in The Villages, it was agreed to combine the three areas into one using **The Villages** as their name. **Jo Beck** of The Villages sent out the invitations and 45 folks were in attendance. **Jerry Bell** stepped forward as their President with RUAEA Director **Paul Brown** filling in as Vice President. We wish them well and look forward to hearing of their on going activities.

The Writers Column: A Perspective on US Airways 1549 Ditching in the Hudson River by Tim Joslin Sr. (Retired UAL pilot)

"US Air 1549, LaGuardia tower, taxi into position and hold on Runway 4." *"Roger, US Air 1549 into position on Runway 4."* In the cockpit, Captain Sullenberger calls for final items on pre-takeoff checklist. *"US Air 1549, LaGuardia Tower, cleared for takeoff!"* *"Roger, US Air 1549 cleared for takeoff!"* Captain speaks to the co-pilot, *"you have the aircraft."* Co-pilot assumes control and takeoff roll begins. Captain (pilot not flying) calls out airspeeds as aircraft accelerates down the runway. *"V1, VR (rotation), V2 (aircraft airborne)."* Co-pilot says *"positive climb, gear up"* and Captain raises the landing gear. LaGuardia tower transmits *"US Air 1549 contact New York Departure Control"*. Captain acknowledges La Guardia Tower and switches to departure control frequency. Co-pilot continues to fly and requests flap retraction on schedule set by gross weight and airspeed. Captain contacts departure control, retracts flaps on command and does the after takeoff checklist.

At an altitude of approximately 3200 ft, a few miles NW of LaGuardia Airport, the co-pilot exclaims *"a formation of geese!"* The Captain only has time to look up and then, instinctively, lower his head to avoid the impending collision. The next sounds heard are the booming backfires (compressor stalls) from both engines as they try to swallow the twenty pound Canadian Geese. Jet engines are certified to ingest a 4 lb. bird but not a 20 lb. carcass! The engines immediately begin to wind down, losing power. US Airways 1549 has become a glider and starts descending.

Captain Sullenberger says, *"I have the aircraft!"* and takes control from the co-pilot. In the passenger cabin, there is the smell of burning feathers and smoke along with the realization, by the flight attendants and the more experienced travelers, that something has gone very wrong. Captain Sullenberger declares an emergency on their radio frequency, informing New York Departure Control that they have lost both engines and

orders the co-pilot to execute the Engine Relight Procedure (three pages long). LaGuardia Tower is informed of the emergency and immediately shuts down all take-offs and landings, clearing the way for a US Airways return to the airport.

Captain Sullenberger makes a quick decision, after initially turning back towards LaGuardia Airport, that the aircraft does not have the altitude or airspeed to make that airport. Air traffic controllers then suggest Teterboro Airport, just west of the Hudson on the New Jersey side. The Captain has never landed there, is not familiar with surrounding obstacles and quickly calculates that it is too far. The co-pilot frantically continues to try restarting both engines with no success! As the disabled aircraft descends over the George Washington Bridge, the Captain makes his decision: *"We will be in the Hudson"*, he declares over the radio.

Normal ditching of a powered aircraft calls for full landing flaps, gear up, and splashing down with full power on the engines, to land as slow as possible without stalling the aircraft. If done right, a ditching is survivable. Captain Sullenberger's strategy is quickly formed based on his Glider Pilot Rating. He commands the co-pilot to extend the slats (leading edge flaps). A far cry from the normal full flaps called for, but a compromise that might work in this situation. The aircraft is now at 300 ft over the Hudson River with airspeed of 153 knots. The Captain keys the passenger address system and yells, *"THIS IS THE CAPTAIN, BRACE FOR LANDING!"* The flight attendants, knowing impact is imminent, began yelling from throughout the cabin, *"BRACE, BRACE, BRACE!"*

The Captain has visually selected an area on the river which is close to some ferry docks. He commands the co-pilot, *"call out my airspeed"*. If the aircraft gets too slow before splashdown, it could stall, resulting in loss of flight controls and a disastrous result. Captain Sullenberger's physical manipulations of the flight controls, in the last seconds before splashdown, result in the wings level, nose slightly high and airspeed deteriorating toward a stall. Splashdown is characterized by one deadheading crew as akin to moderate turbulence. One of the passengers compares it to a rear-end collision with a car. Overall, an excellent result! Shouts of *"EVACUATE, EVACUATE"* ring throughout the aircraft cabin. *"RELEASE YOUR SEATBELTS AND GET OUT!"*, *"COME THIS WAY"* directing passengers to the nearest working emergency exit.

One passenger in the aft cabin partially opens a submerged emergency door but is stopped by others. Water begins to leak into aft cabin and passengers become alarmed as water laps at their knees and passengers farther forward don't appear to be moving. Finally, there is movement and passengers escape either through over wing exits or into two inflated forward door slides

which serve as rafts. After all passengers appear to be out of the aircraft, Captain Sullenberger makes two complete trips up and down the length of the cabin to verify no one is left behind. The aircraft continues to float, even after all passengers and crew are picked up by rescue personnel. It drifts about 4 miles down the river before it is grounded by a tugboat.

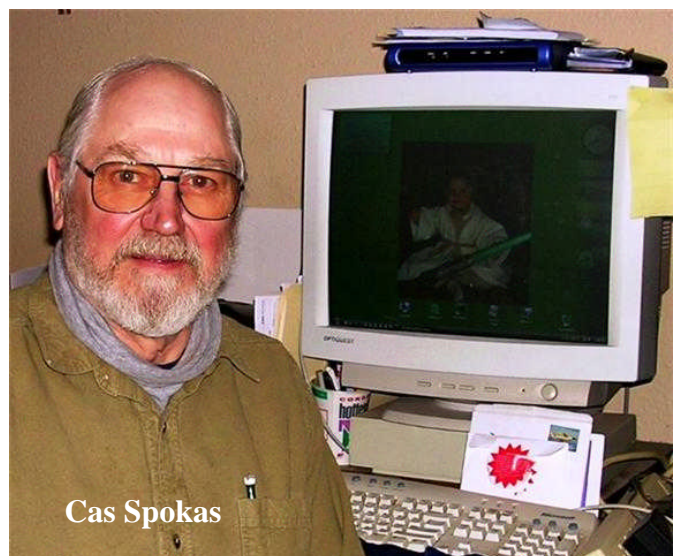
The Miracle on the Hudson has happened!

As a postscript, Model A-321, from the aircraft manufacturer, was designed and certified with no over wing exits!



Know our Volunteers

RUAEA has many volunteers who rise to the challenges of keeping the organization functional in various ways. Each seem to have their own expertise which makes them stand out. I want to make you aware of a fellow retiree who has contributed a tremendous amount of time and expertise to RUAEA without fanfare or public knowledge. His name is **Casimir (Cas) Spokas**.



Cas hired on with United Airlines in 1962 and was assigned to the check crew in Chicago and then moved into the radio shop. When they closed that shop, he went to the line as an R&E Mechanic and then trans-

ferred to Denver in 1991 as an R&E. His talents soon became apparent and he accepted a bid to the Training Department. He worked as a Training Lead and being the inventive person he is, took it upon himself to develop classes which greatly benefited all who sat at his feet.

In 1994, I approached Cas and asked him if he would be interested in working with me on the New (DIA) Airport project. He asked, "Why me?" I told him I needed people that had the ability to think outside of their box. He agreed and during the time he was on the project (until opening day and a few years after) he did a splendid job, developing software applications and maintaining the computer systems for DENMM. Cas gains the respect of all whom he comes in contact with while on the job, off the job and now with RUAEA.

Cas retired in October of 2001, not long after 9/11. A few years into his retirement, I contacted him and asked if he would volunteer to help with the RUAEA computers. He agreed and ever since, he has been the one who has maintained and upgraded the RUAEA membership database program in the Denver Office. This has been no small task. Cas has spent many hours at his home programming changes and then he brings the change to the office and applies it to one of the computers for a "test bed". Note: he lives in Bailey, CO, a 100 mile round trip and he never complains!

The latest task that he is involved in is the programming for the new dues structure that will go into effect on 6/1/2009. This has been a major task, requiring many hours of thoughtful labor to make sure all the "t's are crossed and the i's are dotted". Because of the massive changes to the database resulting from the new dues schedule, Cas has volunteered to personally spend time with each secretary; training them to be able to handle the new system when it goes into effect.

Besides all the work Cas does for RUAEA, he has four children and two grandchildren that he likes to spend time with. He has a few hobbies, like skiing, target shooting and fishing when he gets time. And in his words, "A new life style now has started".

Virgil Gooselaw

United and Aer Lingus Announced Transatlantic Partnership

United is expanding its relationship with code share partner Aer Lingus. This relationship enables United to introduce service between Washington Dulles and Madrid, this is an opportunity to leverage the new EU-US Open Skies Agreement with a new transatlantic, non-stop route that would not be economically viable on its own and brings more traffic and revenue to its network.

The new route opens for sale this April, with daily

service starting in March 2010.

Under the agreement, which covers select long-haul service between North America and Europe, United will manage revenue generation and Aer Lingus will be responsible for operational aspects. The new route structure will be operated and sold under both Aer Lingus and United codes, leveraging both carriers' networks.

"Our expanded agreement takes advantage of new opportunities under the US-EU Open Skies Agreement, benefiting our customers with additional competition and capacity in these markets," says Glenn Tilton, United chairman, president and CEO. *"This partnership provides for a deeper commercial relationship with Aer Lingus, and capitalizes on the unique strengths of both our companies."*

On a related note, Ryanair was making a takeover bid for Aer Lingus and made a friendly poke at United partnership agreement. United responded, in kind, by saying it appreciates Ryanair's congratulations on a good addition to its network, and look forward to taking Aer Lingus customers to four continents and hundreds of destinations that Ryanair doesn't serve.

ATC Modernization Essential for Revitalizing Economy

As President Obama and a new Congress continue to deliberate on how to best revitalize the economy, United's industry leadership is essential to ensure investment in a Next Generation Air Traffic Control (ATC) system.

This week, Glenn Tilton, representing United and the Air Transport Association (ATA), conducted a number of visits with administration and Congressional leaders to advocate for modernizing the ATC and investing specifically in aircraft equipment and avionics. A modern ATC system is an essential underpinning for sustained future economic growth that will benefit the airline industry, its employees and customers.

Both Glenn and James May, ATA president and CEO, commended President Obama for his focus on confronting the economic challenges and urged the use of federal stimulus investments to include the Next Generation ATC system.

Investing in modernizing aircraft equipment can generate 77,000 jobs in a variety of industries, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 12 percent (equivalent to taking 2.2 million cars off the road), reduce passenger delays across the system and help transform the broader economy.

Other aviation partners supporting this request include the Air Line Pilots Association, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, National Business Aircraft Association, Regional Airlines Association and Aerospace Industries Association.

Aviation is critical to helping speed our nation's return to economic growth and prosperity, notes Glenn and Jim in a letter from the ATA to President Obama. *"Any sustained national recovery will depend on affordable and efficient transportation networks connecting more people in more places. Decisions made in Washington in 2009 will determine whether our aviation infrastructure is up to the challenge."*

Bees in the Bellies Contribute To a Better Bottom Line

Passengers on the starboard side of Flight 870 from Sydney must have wondered about the film crew waiting on the ramp as the B747 pulled up to the gate in San Francisco one recent January morning. Were they on hand to greet a VIP passenger after the 13-hour flight? Actually, they were there to document the arrival of two United Cargo pallets loaded with tens of thousands of VIPs – **"Very Important Pollinators."**

Flight 870 carried a shipment of bees, imported from Australia to help California growers deal with the sudden decline in the bee population in the United States. A non-profit organization making a movie called *"Return of the Honeybee"* was at SFO to track the bees from the cargo hold of the B747 over to the Cargo facility. There, the bees were claimed by a California-based pollination service that imports Australian bees to reinforce the domestic colonies that pollinate almond orchards and other agricultural interests in California.

The customer, one of many frequent shippers with United Cargo, says he's pleased with our cargo shipping service that he's received the past few years: *"I bring in about 10,000 boxes of bees each winter from Australia, where it's summer this time of year, and have been since 2004. Without these bees, our agricultural industry would be in serious trouble."* Bees? All in a days work.

While the film crew watched with excitement, the ramp personal who unloaded the bees did so with their usual care. The SFO ramp crews *"have seen just about everything you can imagine emerge from the bellies of our planes over the years,"* says Scott Ramos, ramp supervisor. *"I don't think there's an animal or food we haven't unloaded at some point."*

Cargo's revenue has grown over the years to 854 million dollars in 2008, an 11% increase over 2007.

Maximizing cargo revenue opportunities on every flight, especially internationally, is at the forefront of the Cargo operation for 2009, says Managing Director Kyle Betterton.

"Once passengers, their luggage and mail are loaded on an airplane, that leaves a certain amount of space for us to fill," Kyle said. *"Our goal is to fill all of that space, up to the weight limits, on each of those airplanes."*

With United's Support, Chicago Students Witness History

On television and the Internet, millions of people around the world watched the inauguration of President Barack Obama. With United's help, a group of 15 students from the South Shore School of the Arts, United's partner high school in Chicago, joined the throngs of people who were fortunate to witness this historic event in person.

Their once-in-a-lifetime trip to the nation's capital - many of the students had never visited Washington before, and most had never flown - began early Monday morning with a surprise greeting by news reporters from Chicago's network television affiliates, who filmed the students stepping off their school bus and checking in at United counter at O'Hare. The students were given United backpacks and pens, as well as cameras and journals to document their trip and, after a send-off by ORD Customer Service Manager Lisa Cole, boarded Flight 580 to Baltimore (BWI).

"Everything was good and smooth" on board and upon arrival at BWI, says student Phillip Dickerson, who filmed the entire flight while on board.

The group hit the ground running, checking into their hotel and embarking on a volunteer project as part of their community service work on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. On Inauguration Day, a busy itinerary was highlighted by the chance to witness the swearing-in up close. *"It was fun, it was nice, it was great."* said student Michelle Hawkins. *"It was cold, but it didn't matter. I was so elated to be there."*

A special Inaugural Ball was arranged in the evening for the students who dressed in ball gowns and tuxedos.

The next day's agenda included visits to historic attractions, including the Corcoran College of Art and Design and the Capitol.

The students, who returned to Chicago on the following day, will share some of their photos with United. See SkyNet for news reports about this exciting journey and pictures of the trip.

Fourth Quarter 2008 Financial Results

UAL Corp:

- ➔ Reported a fourth quarter pre-tax loss of 547 million dollars excluding non-cash, net mark-to-market hedge losses and certain accounting charges. Including these items, United reported a pre-tax loss of 1.3 billion dollars.
- ➔ Reported basic and diluted loss per share for the fourth quarter of 4 dollars, 22 cents, excluding non-cash, net mark-to-market hedge losses and certain accounting charges. Including these items, United's

loss per share was 9 dollars, 91 cents.

- ➔ Reported solid revenue performance with a 4.7 percent increase year-over-year in fourth-quarter consolidated passenger unit revenue per available seat mile (PRASM), excluding Mileage Plus accounting impacts. Including these impacts, consolidated PRASM increased 2.1 percent year-over-year.
- ➔ United reduced the total operating expenses (**) 7.4 percent for the quarter, compared to the prior-year period. Capacity reductions typically result in significant increases in unit costs since fixed costs take longer to address and, in the short term, are spread over a smaller number of seat miles. In the fourth quarter, United managed to hold its non-fuel unit costs per available seat mile (CASM) for the quarter, excluding certain accounting charges, to a modest 1.6 percent increase, despite the 11.7 percent total capacity reduction that was achieved for the fourth quarter.
- ➔ Raised nearly 390 million dollars in cash in the fourth quarter through various activities, including aircraft financings, asset sales and equity issuances.
- ➔ Recorded its best fourth-quarter on-time performance since 2004.

United is taking additional steps in 2009 to reduce overhead costs (Please see the following story on salaried and management reductions).

United reported a pre-tax loss, excluding non-cash, net mark-to-market losses and certain accounting charges, of 547 million dollars for the quarter. This compared to an adjusted pre-tax loss of 105 million dollars in the fourth quarter of 2007, as the recent fall in fuel prices drove losses on fuel hedges put in place earlier in the year when prices were rising to unprecedented levels. Including these items, United's fourth-quarter pre-tax loss was 1.3 billion dollars in 2008 compared to a pre-tax loss of 98 million dollars in 2007.

Total passenger revenue for the quarter decreased 8.7 percent year-over-year as consolidated capacity declined 10.6 percent, consolidated yield increased 2.4 percent and load factor decreased 0.3 points. Cargo revenue for the quarter decreased 19.3 percent year-over-year as a result of lower international capacity and weakening demand.

Continued Focus on Cost Performance: Mainline CASM, excluding fuel and certain accounting charges, was up only 1.6 percent in the fourth quarter, despite an 11.7 percent decline in mainline capacity as United took aggressive action to remove fixed as well as variable costs from the system while reducing capacity. For the full year 2008, mainline CASM excluding fuel and certain accounting charges was up only 1.5 percent, despite a 4.2 percent decline in capacity.

Lower Fuel Prices Resulted in Hedging Losses: United recorded 370 million dollars in cash losses on

fuel hedges that settled in the quarter, as the recent fall in fuel prices drove losses on hedges put in place earlier in the year to mitigate the steep increase in prices that had occurred in the second and third quarters of 2008. In addition, United also recorded non-cash net, mark-to-market losses on its fuel hedges of 566 million dollars.

Actions Taken to Enhance Our Cash Position:

United completed several transactions during the fourth quarter that helped strengthen its liquidity. It raised 215 million dollars from aircraft financing transactions that closed during the quarter along with 66 million dollars in proceeds from asset sales. United also received net proceeds of 107 million dollars through equity issuances during the quarter.

During the fourth quarter, United generated negative 989 million dollars of operating cash flow and negative 1.1 billion dollars of free cash flow, defined as operating cash flow less capital expenditures. Both the operating cash flow and free cash flow include 587 million dollars in additional net fuel hedge deposits that were paid during the quarter.

The company ended the quarter with an unrestricted cash balance of 2.0 billion dollars, a restricted cash balance of 272 million dollars and 965 million dollars in cash deposits held by our fuel hedge counterparties.

Early in 2009: Early in the first quarter of 2009, United closed an additional aircraft financing transaction, which raised 95 million dollars and expect to raise approximately 160 million dollars from a cargo facility relocation agreement with ORD. In January, United received net proceeds of 62 million dollars from equity issuances and anticipate receiving an additional 27 million dollars of net proceeds in the first quarter by completing the equity issuances that were announced in December. Altogether, United expects to raise about 350 million dollars from these transactions by the end of the first quarter.

Significant Improvement in Operating Results:

United has seen significant improvement in its operational performance during the fourth quarter as a result of its increased focus on operational execution, improvements in the schedule structure and the industry-wide reduction in capacity. United is also benefiting from the November opening of the new runway at ORD.

United's on-time arrival: Performance for the fourth quarter was 79.2 percent, United's best fourth-quarter performance since 2004. The cancellation rate was 1.4 percent, its lowest fourth-quarter rate since 2005. As a result of these improvements, United ranked second in on-time performance for the fourth quarter among the five major U.S. network carriers, including Continental Airlines, American Airlines, US Airways and the combined Delta/Northwest Airlines.

United is on track to complete the previously announced removal of 100 aircraft from its fleet by the end

of 2009.

(**) Excluding the effects of accounting charges and non-cash, mark-to-market fuel hedge losses.

ASK THE PHARMACIST

What you should know about cholesterol!

Cholesterol is a waxy, fat-like substance that's found in all cells of the body. It has both good and bad effects on your overall health. Your body uses cholesterol to make hormones, vitamin D, and substances that help you digest foods.

Too much cholesterol in the blood, or high blood cholesterol, can be serious. People with high blood cholesterol have a greater chance of getting heart disease. High blood cholesterol on its own does not cause symptoms; so many people are unaware that their cholesterol level is too high.

When your body has too much cholesterol, deposits of fat, called plaque, form inside blood vessel walls. The blood vessel walls thicken and become narrower (a condition called atherosclerosis). This change reduces blood flow through the blood vessels. Fatty plaques caused by high cholesterol can rupture, possibly leading to heart attacks or strokes.

What are your cholesterol numbers?

It's important to find out what your cholesterol levels are, because lowering cholesterol levels that are too high, lessens your risk of developing heart disease. When you get your cholesterol checked, your healthcare provider will give you a number for your total cholesterol level.

- ☞ A total cholesterol level of less than 200 is considered desirable.
- ☞ A total cholesterol level of 200 to 239 is considered borderline high.
- ☞ A total cholesterol level of 240 or above is considered high.

When your cholesterol is found to be high, your healthcare provider may also check the amount of LDL (low-density lipoprotein) and HDL (high-density lipoprotein) in your blood. LDL cholesterol is called bad cholesterol. HDL cholesterol is called good cholesterol. It's good to have low levels of LDL and high levels of HDL.

Lowering your bad cholesterol

Eating right, exercising, and not smoking can often control cholesterol levels. If you have a high risk for heart disease, your healthcare provider may prescribe cholesterol-lowering medication and recommend changes in lifestyle. Many cholesterol-lowering medications are available as generics. If your doctor recommends a cholesterol-lowering medication, ask about an available generic medication that may save you money. Here are some tips for lowering high cholesterol levels:

- ☞ Increase your dietary fiber by eating more fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.
- ☞ Lose weight.
- ☞ Increase physical activity.

RUAEA Membership Dues Increase

**(Please Note that this policy is not effective until
JUNE 1, 2009)**

RUAEA, like any other organization that provides a service to its membership has to weigh the expense of providing the service relative to its income. Our source of income is primarily from membership dues and a nominal amount of income from savings accounts. Another source is from contributions, of which we are grateful. In view of the fact that our costs have gradually increased over the last ten years (since our last dues increase) we feel it necessary to make an adjustment. At our last Board of Directors meeting, an increase in dues was recommended. The recommendation was weighed and after due consideration the board approved a nominal increase. In addition to the increase, a multi-years' choice (*at a discount*) was also approved, for a limited period of time, and an option to receive both the web/internet and paper versions. The new dues structure (**effective June 1, 2009**) is as follows:

Domestic Members:

- * One year - \$25.00
- * Two years - \$45.00
- * Three years - \$60.00

Domestic and Foreign Regular members can receive the monthly RUAEA newsletter either via the U.S. mail or the Internet (*usually available 3 weeks ahead of the mailed edition*). If you would like to have both Internet and US mail, you can get it for an additional \$5.00 per year. **NOTE: The option of both paper and Internet is not available for Life Members.** You can have one but not both.

Canadian Members:

- ☞ One year - \$45.00
- ☞ Two years - \$85.00
- ☞ Three years - \$105.00

Foreign Members:

- ✈ One year - \$50.00
- ✈ Two years - \$95.00
- ✈ Three years - \$120.00

Regular Members from Canada or Foreign locations may receive their Newsletter by the internet only at the Domestic yearly rates. **NOTE:** Once this option is selected, you cannot revert back to the paper Newsletter until the membership expiration date.

NOTE: The two and three year options listed above will be available for one time only beginning **June 1, 2009** and ending **June 1, 2010**. After that, the dues structure will revert to one year increments.

Thank you for your understanding and continued commitment to RUAEA.

RUAEA Board of Directors

Travel Tips By Bob

I have recently been receiving queries concerning Boarding Priorities, so I thought I would dedicate this month's Travel Tips to boarding priority. Most of the following is taken from the Travel Section in SkyNet and then some words of wisdom at the end.

Employee/eligibles and companion travelers are accommodated on a space-available basis by boarding priority and, within each boarding priority, by seniority.

Boarding Priority refers to the type of travel (e.g., emergency, business, pleasure) and the status of the individual traveler (e.g., crew member, retiree/dependent, employee/dependent/enrolled friend, and companion). Passes are coded with a "BP" and a number showing boarding priority. The lower the "BP" number, the higher the priority. Stand-by travel eligibles and companions traveling with an employee/retiree flying on a NRPS business pass/emergency travel or with an employee working as a crew member (including deadheading) are considered unaccompanied and the lower space available boarding priority applies, thus a higher number. Pleasure travel for employees, their travel eligibles, and companions are ordinarily coded BP8A, 8B or 8C. Pleasure travel for high-seniority retirees and their dependents is likely to be coded BP6B.

Seniority is based on Date of Employment, with more senior employees and retirees boarded ahead of less senior employees and retirees. Dependents, travel eligibles and companions are boarded according to the seniority of the employee* or retiree* from whom they derive their travel privilege. Retirees with less than 25 years of service and surviving spouse**/surviving domestic partners**/Dependents** and parents** of active employees are boarded based on the years and months of company service.

** Boarded by company seniority if the employee died while performing work-related duties or when traveling on business or pleasure travel where the death was caused by a UA/UAX aircraft accident or by the intentional conduct of a third party while on board a United/United Express aircraft. Employee death caused by a car accident or while on a layover or personal time is excluded.

Surviving dependents of employees killed on duty or when traveling on a UA/UAX aircraft: Surviving spouses, domestic partners and eligible dependents including parents of employees who are killed on duty or when traveling on a UA/UAX aircraft are entitled to unlimited space available travel subject to service

charges and applicable taxes and fees*. Surviving dependents will board based on the employee's company seniority date instead of his/her years and months of active service. To qualify, the employee must have died in an industrial accident while performing work; where the death was caused by an aircraft accident or by the intentional conduct of a third party; or while traveling positive space for business or space-available for pleasure onboard a UA/UAX aircraft. The higher BP-6B boarding priority for travel flown domestically will be reached upon the 25th anniversary of the deceased employee's company seniority date or upon the date the deceased employee would have reached the early retirement age, whichever occurs later. This policy is not applicable if the accident or incident occurs while on personal time during a trip layover, if in an automobile or airport/business transport accident or when job duties are not being performed except when traveling on a UA/UAX aircraft for business or for pleasure.

Surviving parents/step parents of a deceased employee: Two surviving parents or step parents of a deceased employee are entitled to unlimited space available ID90 travel for three years from the date of the employee's death on United and United Express at a BP-8B boarding priority. Parents/Step parents must be eligible for Travel Privileges prior to the death of the employee. Parent names will be retained in employee *FNZ profile. * Surviving parent travel is subject to imputed income.

Boarding Priority is determined by the Computer and will be auto printed on your Boarding Pass. The Gate Agents are responsible for orderly boarding and may elect not to board in the Boarding Priority order. Normally when this happens the agent sees that all the top BP's will not be able to be in First Class, thus they will go ahead and board the rest in the Economy Cabin. And, if the Economy section is full then the top BP may be called later for boarding in the Economy +5 section, which is a seat with more leg room.

The Large HUB Cities ORD, IAD, & SFO (soon to be DEN & LAX) and eventually other major airports will have Lighted Signs of Boarding showing the names (first three letters plus initial) of standbys and the order they are being called up. Please **DO NOT** approach the Podium to question the Boarding Agent/s concerning the sequence of boarding as there may be revenue standby's included in the list and they always go before NRSA. To view the Boarding Priority from BP-6B down to BP-10 please go to SkyNet and on the Home Page in the upper right side click on the "Travel" icon and then look on the right side of the page for the Travel Policy box. In the box, see "NRSA Boarding Priority" and click on it. The "Boarding Priority" page will appear and then scroll down to the boarding priority chart. You can call any of the Retiree Travel Desks (PDX/

SEA/ORD) for questions in reading these BP Tables and assistance getting into SkyNet.

And a reminder: Get your off-line discount tickets from the Interline Ticketing Desk at 1-888-874-1581 ten (10) business days in advance. **Do not** expect to pick-up tickets at the Airport the day of travel. Inclement weather, delays or flight cancelations will occupy the Ticket Counters and you **will** be refused. The Customer comes first at United.

Bob Brumfield - MrB10@mac.com

Accessing SkyNet

A member wants to know how to access SkyNet. Just go to: <https://united.intranet.ual.com/>. If you are a first time user, click on the HELP button and follow the instructions.

Rules For Submitting Articles To The Newsletter

All articles submitted for publishing in the Newsletter are due in the Denver Office on the 7th of the month. This includes chapter reports, letters for the "Letters" Column, obituary listings (**Note:** *Rules for submitting an obituary notice is listed in the Obits section of this Newsletter*), and in general, any item for inclusion into the current Newsletter. All items received after the 7th are subject to be considered for the next Newsletter. **There is one exception to the above deadline:** *If your chapter meets on the deadline date, we will extend this deadline by one day for the chapter report, if it is submitted by email and received by 4PM in the Denver, CO office.*

Newsletter articles may be sent by e-mail to ruaea@qwestoffice.net or by FAX. FAX number is (303) 780-5667. If sent by U.S. Mail, address to RUAEA, 7401 E. MLK Blvd, Denver, CO 80207-2433. Allow for postal delay. We cannot extend the deadline!

Chapter Correspondents: If you have not received a copy of the Newsletter guidelines (dated 6/2008) and the minutes of the Correspondents' meeting from the RUAEA 2008 Convention in Pittsburgh, please contact us and we will send you a copy. Also, we would appreciate it, if you would provide any newly appointed Chapter Correspondent, a copy of the Newsletter Guidelines (they can also contact us for this).

Please note that all submitted articles are subject to editing and approval by the Newsletter Manager. Once they are published in the RUAEA Newsletter they become the property of RUAEA. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me. My contact information is listed in the Newsletter.

Virgil Gooselaw, Newsletter Manager
vgoose@comcast.net

LOCAL NEWS

ALABAMA



SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Donna Gooch
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What a great turnout for our first Sweet Home Alabama RUAEA meeting on January 12! Currently, we have 24 families represented for our great State, with promises from 10 additional retirees to join our future meetings. Many of our attendees signed up for the RUAEA Newsletter – great way to keep up with friends around the country!

President **Herb Wilbanks** started us off with a bang – two door prizes – a one of a kind collector's item, UA Birmingham T-shirt and a UAL history book. Then, he provided photo memorabilia from BHM operations: from DC6s to Caravelles to 727s and 737s – even a photo of Pat Patterson! That kept us occupied with war stories for quite a while.

We always knew Herb was a pack-rat, just didn't know how much!

Herb & Carol Wilbanks are planning an outdoor party at their home in Emerald Lakes in Birmingham for our June meeting.

Almost all facets of UA were represented: Airline Captains, flight attendants, mechanics, customer service representatives, freight agents – quite a reunion to see all our great buddies over the years. **Adrian Bewley**, retired as UA 777 Captain, commuted from Birmingham to Chicago his entire career – over 35 years!

Charlotte Gibson, one of our flight attendants, is keeping us updated on hotel/tour/airline discounts.

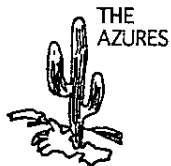
Donna Gooch (formerly **Murrell**) announced her marriage to **Jim Gooch**, her high school sweetheart. Seems Jim had joined the Air Force and after 4 years was offered a job at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, managing all the hazardous materials loaded on and off our military flights there. He retired from the government and remained in Delaware for 50 years. Not knowing where the other one was during this time, Jim's sister found that they were both single and reintroduced them via cell phones (oh, the miracles of modern wonders!). Seems Jim came to Alabama, the two of them discovered what was once lost, Jim drove back to Delaware, put his house on the market, moved back to Birmingham and the two were married December 20th. Jim's 3 brothers and sisters who still live in the Birmingham area had tried to get him to move back home

for 50 years. Jim said the two of them were going to put their story on Oprah after they have their first child! (Only kidding.)

ARIZONA

PHOENIX AZURES

Carol Liltz
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vichcjl@aol.com



Our January luncheon at Portofino's West in Sun City West was **SPLENDIDO!**

Our guest singer, Phil Morreale (93 years young) entertained us with melodies sung by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett (he even looks like Tony) and many more. We thoroughly enjoyed him. It was a great afternoon ... and the food was excellent.

Feb. 7 luncheon (and White Elephant sale) was held at Pebblecreek Tuscany Clubhouse in the Chianti Room. We always have a good time with the "surprise" packages that our members bring. I'll report on that next month. Final count is 53 attendees ... which is great!

On March 17, we will be at Turf Paradise Race Track for our annual "corned beef and cabbage" luncheon. We usually plan on 40 attendees ... the track dedicates a race to the Azures and everyone has a great time ... I hope they all win!

Last month's newsletter had the Registration Packet for the Convention, May 17-24. We hope that, with all the transportation information and interesting tours, there will be a big turnout for the convention in "*The Valley Of The Sun*". The convention committee has been working hard to make this a successful event. If anyone is interested in volunteering as an airport greeter or Hospitality Room host, please contact me and I will be glad to submit your name. We need everyone's help.

We are saddened by the death of our member and friend, **Don Raymer**, on Jan. 22 from a stroke and brain aneurysm. There was a memorial service in Sun City West, with burial in CO. Also, on Feb. 3, 2009, we received word that **Dan Mahoney** passed away from lung cancer. Our prayers and thoughts are with **Sheila** and their family for their loss. Cards can be sent to: 12607 West Rampart Drive, Sun City West, AZ 85375.

Happy Birthday's to **Zita Wessa** and **Vic Liltz** on February 4.

If any member wants me to make "special mention" about a birthday, illness, anniversary, birth (?), etc. in this newsletter, please e-mail me with the information and I will be glad to make a note of it.

The 80 degree temperature is around for a few days! It's beautiful here in the valley! The plants are budding

... some flowers are blooming and my geraniums are looking real good! It sure beats Chicago!

Calendar:

Coco's breakfast meetings, 08:00AM, 98th and Bell Roads

March 17 - Turf Paradise Race Track (back by popular demand), information to follow by e-mail.

March 19 - All Arizona Luncheon - Eloy, AZ - Robson Ranch

April 4 - Luke A.F.B luncheon cookout



PHOENIX RE-UNITED

Liz Tollefsen
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tedtolle@aol.com

This is a beautiful time of the year here in Arizona and we hope many of you will join us as we get together with our fellow retired United Airlines here in the Phoenix area. We look forward to various activities coming up this month and also the RUAEA Convention here, starting the week of May 17th.

Our luncheon at the Grandview Steak House in January was very nice with 43 people in attendance. Our speaker, Dr. Allen Raczkowski, who is a Cardio Thoracic Surgeon at Banner Heart Hospital, presented a very informative PowerPoint on robotic cardiac surgery. He has done 400 cases since 2006. Robotic surgery makes it possible for patients who once faced several weeks of recovery, to get back on their feet within days of surgery. The luncheon was hosted by **Rita Zarek, Linda Cooper-Koltz, and Peg Homfeldt.**

Our chapter voted to send a donation of \$100 to the Flight 93 Chapel Memorial in Pennsylvania. This chapel is a small church that was renovated by volunteers on the way to the crash site. It contains photos and memorabilia and is dedicated to the memory of those who perished on Flight 93.

Our RUAEA dues will increase effective June 1, 2009 to \$25.00 for one year; \$45.00 for two years and \$60.00 for three years. The multi-years' choice (at a discount) was approved for a limited period of time. This will end June 1, 2010. After that, the dues structure will revert to one year increments. Our own annual chapter dues are \$5.00 per person.

Our Feb. luncheon at Rosati's in Chandler, hosted by **Donna Pedone**, will be reported on next month.

Our All-Arizona Luncheon is being held Thursday, March 19 at the Robson Ranch Grill in Eloy, starting at 11:00 a.m. for the no-host bar and lunch being served at 12:00 noon. The lunch is a Ballgame Tailgate party consisting of Grilled Burgers and Dogs, Grilled

Chicken, Potato Salad, Beans, and Cole Slaw. Send your check for \$18.00 per person to **Sybil Collins**, 731 W. Rio Moctezuma, Green Valley, AZ 85614. This is always a very good time to see your fellow RUAEA members from other chapters in our state.

We've had a number of our members having some health problems recently - **Bob Hallden**, **Linda Cooper-Koltz**, **Joel Matteson**, **Ginny Rockenhauser**, and **Ron Willoughby**. Hope you all feel better soon. Also, we heard from **Ed Eson**, from CO, that Jo is not doing well and in Hospice. **Frank Sapelak** died on Feb. 2nd. Our condolences go out to Julia. He was a great guy.

March birthdays are: **Jim Fauber** (3/6), **El Ailshie** (3/10), **Hank Falk** (3/12), **Ed Conlon** (3/17), **Olga Aguilar** (3/20), and **Graham Snediker** (3/21). Happy Birthday to all of you!

Anniversaries in March are: **Pink & Gordy Kubiak** (3/11/61), and **Beverly & Bob Gerdes** (3/28/83). Congratulations to both couples!

Calendar:

March 19 - All-Arizona Luncheon at Robson Ranch Grill, Eloy, Arizona, starting at 11:00AM for social hour and lunch at noon. Send your checks for \$18.00 to **Sybil Collins** at the above address.

March 27 - Breakfasts starting at 9:00 AM at Crackers, 535 W. Iron Ave. in Mesa (near Hwy 60 and Arizona Ave.). Contact **Peg Homfeldt**, (480) 396-3317 - phomfeldt@cox.net or **Jim Zarek** at (480) 288-6685 - jzarek1@msn.com by March 25 if you plan on attending.

TALL PINES

Anita Murphy
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jacmsm63@cs.com



Prescott Tall Pines January meeting was filled with smiling faces back from the New Year. Happy New Year to everyone!

We chose a new place to have our meetings for the year except for the summer months. We will have our meetings at Pete's Restaurant which is under new management, the lunch and service was great. We look forward to future meetings there.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, 2 of our members are retiring again by hanging up their hats from handling monthly activities for the group. Thanks for a job well done by **Ann Tomasic** who has been correspondence coordinator for 5 years, and kudos to **Jean Risdon** who has been primary facilitator and President for 6 years. Two existing members, **Vickie Hilger** and **Anita Murphy**, will now be President/primary facilitator and correspondence coordinator respectively. Welcome to both and thank you for taking the initiative. We

are ensured a successful year also with several others who have chosen to be alternates and other activities such as **Blas Arriaga** heading up calls, and **Earle Risdon** remaining treasurer. Thanks to all.

In other news, **Earle & Jean Risdon** celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary in May. They couldn't wait till then, so the New Year was brought in with a bang as a dual celebration on a Mexican Riviera cruise with friends. Happy Birthday to **MaryAnn Arriaga** who turned 75 on February 9. She is celebrating because she says she didn't think she'd see 75. She may not realize it yet, but she's going for 100. Go MaryAnn!

Calendar:

February 24 - Lunch at Pete's, 11:00AM



TUCSON

ROADRUNNERS

Roger & Lyn Callihan
2262 E. Gerbera Way
Oro Valley, AZ 85755
(520) 825-1423

Callynrog@comcast.net

Angelinas restaurant was the meeting place for 35 Roadrunners and 3 guests for our January 15th luncheon. **Gordon & Dora Starr** were our hosts for this one and they invited **Tom Harmon**, United's TUS Station Manager and **Raul Diez**, Supervisor of Airport Operations. Tom opened the Tucson station 28 years ago and will close it down on June 4th when United will end service here. United Express will continue to serve the Tucson area. Another guest, **Jo Parker**, a friend of **Pat & Rich DiLallo** also joined the festivities and enjoyed the good food and atmosphere.

It was a little difficult for some of us to hear those who spoke, due to the seating arrangement in the restaurant. Our treasurer, **Sybil Collins** reported that she has received about 45 reservations for the March 19th "All Arizona Luncheon". The flight attendants will be providing the decorations and **Gordon Starr** has arranged for entertainment. The 50/50 will be handled by **Claire & Jerry Byle**.

Our February 19th luncheon will be hosted by **Jim & Gail Rudolph** at their home in Saddlebrook. A \$5.00 donation will be collected on arrival. The luncheon will feature a variety of foods. The Rudolfs hosted this event in their beautiful home last year and we all had a wonderful time.

A memorial service was held on January 27th for **Hans Radtke**. The Knights of Columbus members arranged to have the memorial included in the regular 9:00 Mass at the Santa Catalina Catholic Church. Our Roadrunners donated \$100.00 to the Knights of Columbus in memory of **Hans & Margaret Radtke**.

The family that we adopted this year for our Christmas giving was overjoyed with the gifts they received. **Donna Kuehn**, who arranged for the family, said that the looks on their faces was of real surprise. The older boys in particular were thrilled with the computer. Other gifts included needed clothing. The Yodobi family thanked Donna and the Roadrunners for a memorable Christmas. A donation of \$100.00 was delivered to the "Seniors for Kids" program, who provided the computer.

Calendar:

February 19 - **Jim & Gail Rudolph's** home

March 19 - All Arizona Luncheon at Robson Ranch in Casa Grande

April 16 - Info later

CALIFORNIA

CENTRAL COASTERS

Avila Beach, CA

Al Rybar

P.O. Box 2298

Avila Beach, CA 93424

(805) 595-2532

papawow@charter.net



It's been a slow news month for our Chapter after our December meeting and Christmas party. I have not heard from anyone except for some e-mails and I'm assuming everyone had a joyous and safe holiday.

One e-mail I received had to do with "Great WWII Posters". I remembered almost all of them and I sent it to **Uel Soward** for his input. Naturally, I got a return e-mail from him with some interesting information. He said that he did not join the armed forces when Hawaii was bombed, but did go into ship building. Within two months, he was in charge of a group assembling items for cruisers and destroyers. On one occasion, he worked 14 hours a day for 9 weeks and was the youngest of his group. He also said that his father took part in the building boom in ELAY County (wherever that is), and Uel got married in Pasadena, CA on Sept. 24, 1931. This man has a wealth of information and knowledge. He will soon be celebrating a very young 100 years of age.

I've been meaning to call attention to our members regarding their birthdays and anniversaries. This will be one of my New Year resolutions. Beginning in 2009, those having birthdays in Jan. and Feb. are: **Jean Foster** (1/1), **Betty Rupp** (2/29), and **Bridgett Zoldak** (2/4). Wedding Anniversaries are: **Al & Marilyn Rybar** (1/2), and **Mike & Bridgett Zoldak** (2/7).

Our next Chapter meeting will be on Feb. 18th hosted by **Esther & Bob Bartlett** at a location to be determined.

For you golfers: If your best shots are the practice swing and the "gimme putt", you might wish to reconsider this game.

BRAZEN RAISINS

Dick Shryock

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dukie@sti.net



The Brazen Raisins' January 2009 meeting was hosted by **Jack (Big Bear) Hartman**. President **Don Nessling** introduced new member **George Dalition**, retired United Airlines pilot, and had other members introduce themselves to George.

Don Nessling gave the sunshine report since wife Donna was ill with heart problems; **Bob & Ethelda Frost** have been having health problems, but Ethelda is getting better, and they hope to get to the meetings soon.

In a departure from our usual meeting place, Pacific Seafood Restaurant, our February 2009 meeting will be held at the Victoria Rose Cottage in Clovis hosted by **Peggy & John Oakshott**.

Dick Hayes brought photos he had taken at the November and December meetings and gave them to us; **Hazel Hayes** brought a beautiful afghan she had made, to take to the Phoenix RUAEA Convention for the auction.

Some jokes were told, and a lively conversation was started by the pilots in our group about airplane trips and flying during World War II; **Gil Gilbert** said that his wife **Pat** was one who used to give a lot of hints about travelling on United.

The Brazen Raisins' February 2009 meeting was hosted by **John & Peggy Oakshott** who selected a new restaurant for this meeting, the Victoria Rose Cottage in Clovis, a suburb of Fresno. We enjoyed a visit by our RUAEA Director **John Zoboli** and wife **Pat**. Our guest was Tritania Jones, grand-daughter of **Nile & Lincoln Jones**. President **Don Nessling** welcomed back the **Follansbees, Frosts** and **Donna Nessling** who had been on the sick list.

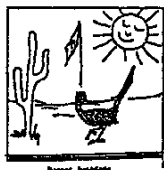
John Zoboli reported on a number of items regarding United Airlines and other airlines; he also told of a kind deed by a United Express agent at Indianapolis for a group of soldiers returning from Iraq, who were stranded because of a late arrival of one of their flights; John also invited the Brazen Raisins to the Reno Sierra Roundup's annual picnic in San Harbor Park at Lake Tahoe on August 10; he also reminded us of the RUAEA Convention in Phoenix, May 17 to 24.

Of course, jokes were provided by **Nile Jones, Bob Frost** and **Dick Hayes**.



DESERT SUNBIRDS

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Palm Desert, CA 92211
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We celebrated Christmas at the Monterey Country Club in Rancho Mirage. Once again, this meeting was the largest of the year with over 60 in attendance. Each person received a gift to take home with them as wonderful as dinner or lunch out or beautiful holiday items. Our Santa hat went to **Elaine & Ron Aggson** who hosted this great luncheon and time together. As usual, we collected funds for the local charities and **Joyce Bosio** handled the donations. Speaking of Joyce, she is stepping down from the office of our treasurer and we all wish to thank her for her service over the years. Our Birthday Day gal was **Melinda Lerg** - good gift for a December baby!

January's meeting was at the Desert Falls Country Club and hosted by **Maureen & John Schultz**. The thirty-one members present all received a party favor of a magnetic note pad. Two members have returned to the Palm Springs area and we are happy to welcome them back. They are **Lynn Marrow & Dave Padnor**. Also, after a long absence, **Dick Gorman** returned with a friend, **Betty Jacobus**. Our birthday winner was **Jenny Pennington** for the free lunch. The 50/50 ticket went to **Barb Napier**.

February's meeting will be in Desert Hot Springs at the Capri Italian Restaurant & Steakhouse. **Mary Frank & Maureen Williams** are our hostesses. They can be reached at mbfrank@roadrunner.com or chestalene@roadrunner.com.

SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS



THE SACRAMENTO GOLD DIGGERS

Barbara Bertacini
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Roseville, CA 95747
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bertacini@surewest.net

The Sizzler in Auburn, CA was the setting for the Gold Diggers Jan. 28 meeting hosted by **Velma Stough** and **Glenn & Alice McPeak**. The private room with a beautiful view was most enjoyable for those attending.

Gold Diggers President **Francis Domaratius** welcomed **Ruth McDowell**, guest of **Carolyn Alva** and Northern CA/NV Region Director, **John Zoboli** and his wife **Pat**.

VP **Frank Dellinger** reported that the Past Presidents Luncheon on February 25th will be hosted by **Bob & Marge Fulkerson** and we will meet at Mimi's in

Lincoln on March 25th hosted by **Frank & Angie Dellinger**. We do not meet in May because of the RUAEA Convention but return on June 24th for a luncheon in Roseville hosted by **Francis & Veronica Domaratius**. The **Nortons** have September 30th and the **Esolas** will be hosting October 28th. Months that are still available for hosting are April, July and August.

Co-Secretaries (meeting reports) **Barbara Bertacini** and (mailings) **Colleen Esola**. Barbara announced the anniversaries for **William & Carol Clark** with 53 years and **Sydney & Sherrill Morgan** with 48 years. **Harold Esola** led the group with a Happy Anniversary song. **Velma Stough** brought a card which she had received from a past, long time Gold Digger member, **Joyce Cech**, who now lives in Coon Rapids, Minnesota. Joyce sends her love to all and would love to hear from those who remember the Cechs. Also Velma heard from **Larry Jackson**, son of **Rodney & Ruby Kimes Jackson**. Rodney had passed away May 22, 2007 and Ruby recently passed away on Dec. 14, 2008. Larry lives in Vacaville and wanted Velma to know how much he appreciated all that she had done for his parents over the years. For those wanting to write to either **Joyce Cech** or to **Larry Jackson**, please contact Velma for the addresses.

Treasurer **Judie King** reported our chapter's bank balance. Judie also reminded those who have not paid their \$10 per household Gold Diggers membership dues for the 2009 year, to please do so right away.

Sunshine **Darryll Stroud** reported that Art Massey is under hospice care at home. Art really misses the lunches and the socializing. He is not able to get out of bed, but they are hoping to get him into a wheelchair and out on the patio. Art's wife **Kit** said they send their best to all of you. Darryll sent a card to **Irene Fechter**, wife of **Jack Fechter**. Irene is very sick; she has Spinal Stenosis along with other spinal problems and is in terrible pain. Irene is in a facility for therapy and Jack has home assistance plus their church members are coming over to help daily. Irene has her cell phone with her, contact Darryll for the number. Darryll reports that **Bob Hallden** has had some medical problems but is under Doctor's care and is now doing better. A card was sent to **Charles Dinsmoor** as his wife **Margaret** passed away on Jan. 12 from complications related to Parkinson's Disease. Darryll called **Wayne & Zepha O'Kelly** to see how they were doing but he was unable to talk with them as they were napping. He asked their granddaughter to tell them that he had called.

It was a pleasure to have the Northern CA/NV Region Director, **John Zoboli** and his wife, **Pat**, attend our meeting. John gave a most informative report with news from United and RUAEA. He reminded the chapter presidents and correspondents to please reply as to who will be representing the chapter for the Friday

morning breakfast meeting, the week of convention. John has the Membership Application Forms for RUAEA and reminded all that they need to be a RUAEA member if planning to attend convention. He also has Travel Desk cards for SEA, PDX, ORD with 7 day coverage to help retirees with travel plans. For those of you with relatives or friends in the Bay Area, John mentioned that there is a company in Reno who is advertising for those with A&P License. They have hanger space for A&P Mechanics and Engineers and are looking for those willing to relocate to the Reno area for this opportunity. Please put August 10 on your calendar as the date for the Reno Chapter Annual Picnic at Sand Harbor Beach, Lake Tahoe. Those attending are asked to bring a dessert to share and \$5 to help cover the expenses. This is a most special annual event which many of the Gold Diggers and Hangtown Miners enjoy attending and have fun seeing their Reno friends.

Ron Bertacini, RUAEA Executive VP, encouraged all to consider coming to the 2009 RUAEA Convention in Phoenix May 17-24. Come for a few days or the whole week. There are many ways to get to PHX, including the special \$25 one way fare on Southwest which we are eligible to travel stand by with a letter of authorization which you may get by calling the Benefits department. Those planning to drive will find parking at the hotel for \$16 a day, or for \$10 or \$12 per day at locations a few blocks away. The Friday Friendship Dinner and the Saturday Banquet will have special entertainment both nights.

In closing, **Francis Domaratius** reminded everyone that the February 25th meeting will be at Strings Cafe in Roseville.

Calendar:

February 25 – Past Presidents Luncheon

March 25 – Hosted by the **Dellingers**

April 29 – Hosted by the **Domaratius**

THE HANGTOWN MINERS

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squinell@prodigy.net



Our February 2nd luncheon/meeting was held at Fat's Restaurant in Folsom. The luncheon was hosted by **Jon & Alice Somplack**. There were 44 Miners in attendance with two guests.

Pres. **Jeanette D'Amico** presided over the meeting. The first order of business was a reminder about dues. She then proposed a new meeting schedule for 2009, dropping the July and Sept. meetings. The recommendation passed leaving us with 9 meetings in 2009.

Secretary/Newsletter Editor **Suzie Quinnell** reported that she and Jerry had delivered the generous donations for Toys for Tots from the December meeting to an appreciative local fire department.

Dick Czapkay, our treasurer reported that the treasury balance is looking good.

Sunshine Guy **Irv Wolfram** reported that **Margaret Dinsmoor** had passed away in January. We also welcomed back **Caroline Campbell**. She is recovering from a stroke suffered last year. Historian **Sherrie Wolfram** was busy with her camera as usual.

RUAEA Director **John Zoboli** talked about the upcoming RUAEA Convention in Phoenix. **Ron Bertacini** also told us about some of the numerous activities going on during the Convention.

Tom Stuchell, **Dan Bonetti**, **George Rivas**, **Mary-Lou Wagner** and **Jay Raynor** were extended Hppy Birthday wishes. **Glen & Alice McPeak** (59 years), **Bob & Dorean Ames** (61 years) and **Irv & Sherrie Wolfram** (54 years), are the notable wedding anniversaries in February.

Calendar:

March 2 - Macaroni Grill hosted by **Tom & Betty Obert**.



Redwood
Empire
Retirees

REDWOOD EMPIRE RETIREES

Joan Olsson, Secretary
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olssons@aol.com

Redwood Empire retirees started the new year with a lovely luncheon at Quail Inn, Oakmont, followed two days later with a Celebration of Life for **Dan DeFord**, husband of 2008 President **Judy DeFord**. (Dan passed away late November.) Held at the DeFord home, the celebration was a true recognition of how much the DeFords have been a part of Redwood Empire RUAEA.

The regular luncheon meeting was presided over by new president **Oscar Chambers**. An attendance of 46 people was surprisingly good for a January meeting. It was good to have **Clare Hagen** back after several months taken up by medical issues. We decided against a Golden Gate Fields venue because of the cost. Oscar suggested we let members take turns explaining their UAL background; he started by citing his Reservation/Ticket Sales career. It should be fun learning the career paths of our members.

Calendar:

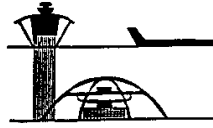
March 12 - Quail Inn, Oakmont

April 9 - La Gare Restaurant, Railroad Square, Santa

Rosa, hosted by **Barney & Clare Hagen**
May 14 - The Spinnaker, Sausalito, hosted by **Joan Sheahan** and **Joan Olsson**

Re-LAX-ers

Los Angeles
Barbara Smith
13721 El Dorado Dr. #20-H
Seal Beach, CA 90740
(562) 430-4886
bjsLAXtours@verizon.net



First, so sorry to have totally dropped the ball last issue. (When will I ever learn to plan ahead?) I had spent hours and dollars having my email address switched to Verizon and thought it was ready to go. I do like sending the news as close to deadline as possible as the email allows in order to get in the latest items. After trying computers at our library and at our computer club lab, I called Virgil and told him I just give up. So this issue is a combination of what should have been sent in *Jan. for Feb. issue*, and this month's news.

So on to news from ReLAXers since sending a report on 12/7:

As with folks in the retiree years, news of passings of our loved friends is in nearly every issue -- painful as it is, we need to know. For the ones who left us in the last couple of months, deep sympathy is extended to the families, and prayers for eternal peace for the departed.

First, because it is in my mind so sadly -- my dear friend, **Betty Houck**, passed away at age 87 in her sleep on Wed. morning, 2/4. On 1/19 she had a shoulder replacement surgery to relieve the extreme pain of arthritis which had plagued her for nearly a year. The surgery went quite well, but Betty's health was fragile as she'd been receiving shots for anemia for ages -- had 4 pts of blood during & after surgery -- had a pace-maker, was having trouble eating much, plus several other problems as well as being very anxious about the surgery. Her close friends and I feel strongly that her body just finally gave up. We feel comforted to know she was happy that the surgery went well and she no longer had the pain and we accept the fact that she just peacefully went to eternal sleep. Such a sweet, friendly smiling lady will be so missed by all of her friends in all the groups she belonged to. Send cards to **Don & Marie Steffler**, 1651 Tamoshanter Rd., #9-B, Seal Beach, CA 90740. (Incidentally, I am helping Marie in the settling of Betty's affairs by contacting the UA offices and find they are very helpful -- especially appreciated since her heirs are not blood relatives.) We hope to have a memorial in a couple of weeks & will advise all.

A notice received on 1/3 about the death of **Mary Myers**, wife of **Merv Myers**. She passed away on Jan. 2, as forwarded from Merv "*She left us very peacefully*

at home with Mike, Jeff and I at her side". Merv's address is 80232 Royal Dornoch Dr., Indio CA 92201. On 1/22, I heard from several friends that our dear friend **Martha Jane Drexle Punche** passed away peacefully on Mon. morning, Jan 19 at the age of 68, of colon cancer. Such a beautiful lady with a smiling face and happy manner -- she will be missed so much.

January was not a good month for our retiree friends. **David Brown** passed away shortly before Jan. 14, and his remains were cremated in London on that date. David made many friends over his years with UA, and we are sure that his family will appreciate hearing from them at: **Gary Brown**, 2265 Blackwood Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94596-5712.

Gladys Mullins, once of LAXRR, then SFOCS, passed away while visiting her daughter in SFO on 12/31. I received this from **Jim Ferrance** who did not have an address for cards/notes, but by now he may have one -- contact him at resrat@aol.com.

George Briggs, passed away in Jan. after many health problems over a year or more. Cards and notes can be sent to **Jo Ann Briggs** at 21303 Legend Av., Carson CA 90745. **Greg Tennyson** who retired from BURRR, to which he'd transferred from LAXRR. Before UA Res., he was with Continental Res. He loved working in the travel business and was a true friend to fellow employees, often calling, sending flowers, etc. to those hospitalized. Send cards to **Deborah Tennyson**, 1726 Año Nuevo Dr., Diamond Bar, CA 90765.

Our Christmas party was a great success as always in our new location (the Queen Mary is too far for many and too expensive of late). As usual, the outpouring of toys for our Mar Vista group was greatly appreciated. A thank you letter from them was read by Pres. Hal at the 2/5 meeting. At Christmas time, I received nice notes from members living a bit far afield -- **Nan & Jim Day** report they no long take off at the drop of a hat, but did enjoy the RUPA MEX Cruise in '08. **Joyce Hendricks** who reports she and hubby are fine. She hopes to get to LAX for a ReLAXers luncheon in '09, but her big time trips include hopes to go to Dubai! She was so excited about going to WAS for the Inauguration -- she was listed so I hope she made it. Let us know, Joyce.

Phyllis & Tom Easley report they probably won't be able to make it to PHX, but are having tons of fun with excursions with their Model T group. **Ed Clay** reports a happy Christmas season in SEA with his nearby daughters, and sent Season's Greetings to all. In-towners -- **Olga Jean Barnes** had some bad spells, in and out of the hospital due to heart problems. We were so happy to see her at the 2/5 meeting feeling "pretty good". **Jan Sherbet** was another welcome face at the 2/5 affair, having had open heart surgery less than a month (I think) ago. **Marion Barnett** and **Jackie Hills** Christmas letter tells us they took their 2nd cruise

through the Panama Canal and enjoyed seeing all the changes since the first trip over 20 years ago. We've missed them at the last couple of meetings, and they report they are in pretty good health, except J's eyes are not doing well, but "*they're in pretty good shape for the shape they're in*".

Hal Zinger has had several setbacks with his heart - and unfortunately, was back in the hospital as of the 2/5 meeting. Here's hoping for a speedy and strong recovery for one of our favorite members of our chapter. **Tarina Murray** is truly our bionic woman having gone through another surgery. She is still wearing the big old neck brace which followed her neck surgery, but such an up-beat person! She's on the go when possible, planning another trip to Cancun, and has sent me a check for our April PSP tour. Having lost my roommate, Betty, I am so pleased that Tarina has agreed to put up with me - a real break for both of us. Several of the group were hit by the flu bug -- **Lois Hamilton** had a bad bout of it which went into bronchitis early last month. **Norm Dugas** was also hit with it -- he lost 15lbs -- and said he thought his number was up! I was very pleased that **Judy Dunworth** has expressed an interest in joining the UA group of volunteers at the USO. Anyone else interested -- let me know, I'll send you an application or tell you how to get it from the website (www.bobhopeuso.org).

I can't find my copy of **Donna Klobe's** report and have a feeling I missed someone that she had reported on -- please forgive me -- the last few days have been hectic and I just can't find anything 2 minutes after having it in my hand! (Yesterday I started out of the house to walk ½ mi. away. Got across the street and thought "*oops, forgot my cell*". Back into the house. Couldn't find cell. Called it on home phone. It rang and rang nearby -- but I couldn't find it! Oh, *bleep*! It was in my pants pocket.)

Calendar:

April 2 - Spring Luncheon

April 7-8 - Tour to PSP and "The Follies" (**Price dropped to \$288 person double and deadline extended to 3/6**).

June 4 - Luncheon

August 6 - Famous steak fry picnic.



GOLDEN GATERS **SFO - BAY AREA**

Helen M. Cain
163 Francisco Drive
South San Francisco, CA 94080
musicalcain@sbcglobal.net

I'm opening this column with a "plea" and a "please". Quite a few months ago, three of our hurting

members left this planet for a better place ... & nobody told me.

When our Chapter is made aware of the passing of one of our members, I send a personalized letter of condolence to the family left behind. That's one of the duties of the Corresponding Secretary (me). Fortunately, we usually have enough money in our "Kitty" to send a memorial donation in the departed one's name to a recognized charity, as designated by the family. This is our way of honoring our now absent friend. If you are aware of a "passing", please don't think that "somebody else" has already contacted me. I don't mind receiving one or more notifications concerning the same person. Or, if you would prefer, contact a Board member or a Coordinator who can pass the information on to me. Our names and home telephone numbers are listed on the front page of the Membership Roster that you received when you joined, updated as necessary. Our addresses are listed inside. My email address is at the top of this column. In any case, I need to be notified so that we can get the memorial donation started on its way. Also, if you know of a member in ill health who might enjoy the encouragement of a "Get Well" or "Thinking of You" card, let me know.

Missing from our earthly sight but not our hearts are:

- June 2008 - **Richard Dickson** (contact Mrs. **Dora Dickson**, 1027 Oakland Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025).
- July 2008 - **Albert Lim** (contact Mrs. **Helen Lim**, c/o daughter Priscilla Unger, 1137 Polynesia Drive, Foster City, CA 94404).
- November 2008 - **Walter A. Smith** (contact Mrs. **Marjorie Smith**, 847 No. Humboldt, #410, San Mateo, CA 94401).

Sharing the blessings of 59 years of marriage are **Joan & Donald (Butch) Brochu**. And guess what, remarkable member **Milt Cavalli** has just celebrated his 96th birthday!

Another remarkable person is 2nd VP **Kathy Hutt** who works so hard to continually present us with monthly enjoyable General Meeting entertainment programs. This year's MENU: February 23, Beverly At The Piano (40's & 50's Oldies); March 23, Ranger Warren Riley (National Park Service); April 27, Scott Holiday (guitarist & singer); May 18, Tibor Horvath & Yelena Savchenko (superb violin & piano music with a humorous bent); June 22, Murphy Irish Dance Group (Irish Dancers); July 27, Keolaulani Halau (Hawaiian Dance Group); August 24, Jewel Tones (Ladies Barber-shop); October 26, Harry J. Kennedy (Narrative, Normandy Invasion WWII); & November 23, Fred McCarthy (Guitarist/Singer). (PS. We have received suggestions that we be more respectful & quieter during the after-lunch entertainment programs.) Just a reminder:

Vera & Walt Kina, Food Coordinators, promise us another fun Chinese luncheon instead of our usual potluck after our March 23 General Meeting. You may still bring your own lunch if you so desire.

Please Note: NO General meeting on Sept. 28: Annual Picnic at Flood Park, Menlo Park; Ditto for Dec. **NO** General Meeting: Enjoy the holy days & holidays.

Chapter member **Bob Clinton** spoke about the United Flying Club, first organized in 1947 by UAL employees & their relatives. Presently based at San Carlos Airport, the following small airplanes have strutted their stuff in the past for a very limited membership: a 65HP Luscombe, Cessna 140, Piper Super Cruiser, Piper Family Cruiser, Piper tri-pacer, 1956 model Cessna 172, 1967 Cessna 150, 1968 Cessna 150, 1968 Cardinal, Cessna 172, & a Piper Archer. The present fleet consists of a 1978 Cessna 152, 1976 Cessna 172, 1980 Cessna 172 & a 1978 Piper. The original limited membership has been revised & is now opening up to additional qualified parties. You may contact the Executive Board regarding membership by email: board@unitedflyingclub.org or by checking out their website: www.Unitedflyingclub.org. A monthly newsletter titled, "*The Flypaper*" is published monthly. (Incidentally, UAL retiree chapter member **Gene Walter** is also a member of this flying club.)

If you are of the female gender & have a hankering to attend the mid-May RUAEA Convention in Phoenix (YAY!), please contact me & I will promptly refer your name to one of our newer members who is seeking a roommate. She lives in Daly City & this would be her first RUAEA convention.

We have budgeted sufficiently so that we have been able to send one-time memorial donations to 7 local charities for this year 2009. If you are a chapter member & have a pet charity, please tell us & we may be able to fund your selection in January 2010.

International Tour Coordinator **Ginger Dahlberg** calls this first one her "Hot Deal" - Norwegian Cruise Lines is offering a 19-day cruise on the "Norwegian Sun" sailing out of San Francisco to Valparaiso (Santiago, Chile), all meals included, November 3 - 22, 2009. Pricing is extraordinary & is based on double occupancy, including airfare from Santiago to SF, insurance, & transfer from the port in Valparaiso to the Santiago airport. Please note: Space is limited! Contact Ginger ASAP! Tel: (650) 224-1865 or email gingersfo@aol.com

Limited space is yet available on an October 1 - 8, 2009 trip to visit Mexico's spectacular Copper Canyon, considered one of the top scenic rail journeys in the world. The Chihuahua-Pacifico Railway will take you both north & south in a spacious air-conditioned chartered first class train car. Going roundtrip means you will view the canyon during daylight as well as being

able to see a different side of the canyon in each direction. Pricing is based on double occupancy. Again, space is limited. Contact Ginger NOW! Telephone (650) 224-1865 or email gingersfo@aol.com

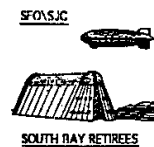
Personally Speaking: Recently posted in my Veterinarian's office is a sign warning of the seemingly edible yet toxic dangers (we're talking "fatal") to which you may be exposing your beloved canine buddy: Chocolate (I guess we all knew about that one) ... but get this: onions, caffeine, cocoa, macadamia nuts, raisins (less than 7) & grapes (also less than 7). Last month, after feeling guilty because I was eating grapes in front of her, I offered one to my new little Welsh Corgi pup, then 6 months old. Fortunately, she was smarter than I because she took it in her mouth, & then without breaking the skin, deposited same onto the kitchen floor ... natural survival instincts, perhaps? Anyway, I retrieved that evil grape & Deep Six'd it. A few days later, I discovered the Vet's warning sign in his office & realized my error. Incidentally, the ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center, after having experienced & recorded a number of frustrating & tragic failures to save an animal, sanctioned this important advice. "Forewarned is forearmed."

Calendar:

Retirees General Meeting: 4th Monday (except for September & December), 11:30 a.m. business meeting, Wm. Walker Recreation Facility, 650 Shell Blvd. (Shell & East Hillsdale Blvd.), Foster City, CA. Lost? Call (650) 286-3380. Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 4788, Foster City, CA 94404.

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA SFO/SJC SOUTH BAY

Cheri Scales
5061 Tottenham Court
San Jose, CA 95136
(408) 226-7855



Help Wanted: United Airline retirees and spouses of deceased retirees needed to increase the membership of the South Bay RUAEA Chapter. We would like to invite any RUAEA member who belongs to another chapter to join us for breakfast or any of our luncheons.

Requirements for Membership: You must be ready to have fun, enjoy good food, laugh at corny jokes and the best of all, make lots of new and lasting friendships. This group will keep you busy (we are the only chapter that meets weekly) and will make sure you enjoy yourself. We hope the following list of activities will get you out of your easy chair to join us soon! Our motto is "The more the merrier". Activities planned for 2009:

➔ Weekly breakfast meetings - 8:00AM Breakfast, 9:00AM meeting.

- ➔ Our annual spring luncheon will be held on April 2nd at Nicolino's in Sunnyvale. Hosted by **Jack & Jean Jenkins**, (408) 374-2678.
- ➔ The summer Bar-B-Q will be held on June 16th at Vasona Park in Los Gatos. Everyone is welcome; bring your kids and grandkids. Hosted by **Tony & Sally Urso**, (408) 264-8580.
- ➔ Our fall luncheon will be held in September. Date and location to be announced soon.
- ➔ The Holiday luncheon will be held on December 8th at Mariani's in Santa Clara. Hosted by the 2009 officers, call **Dave Saso** (408) 266-9347.
- ➔ The annual Ladies luncheon will be held in early December. This is a very festive and special event. This past year, we had a wonderful lunch, delicious dessert and a chocolate treat exchange. Call **Joan Dahl**, (408)-996-2161.

We are planning several "Theme" breakfasts; our first will be a magic show to be held on February 27th. We will try to announce these special meetings well in advance so you can plan to attend.

If you should need a car pool to any of our meetings or luncheons, please call our secretary **Cheri Scales**, (408) 226-7855 and she will try to arrange transportation for you.

In Jan., we welcomed **Dave Saso** as President, **Zelma Kibler-Rosenthal** as Vice President and **Cheri Scales** as Secretary. **Garver Sandy** will continue as Treasurer and **LaDonna Eggert** will continue as Sunshine Lady.

We would all like to thank our outgoing secretary **Alice Rostirolla** for her 4½ years of service. She has tirelessly recorded our chapters activities and written wonderful reports for the national newsletter. Thank you Alice, for doing such a wonderful job, a job that I am finding is much harder than it first appears. I will do my best to live up to Alice's high standards.

Our January list of people who have been "Grounded due to a mechanical problem" are: **Vic & Elaine Kristen**, **Floyd Phillips**, **Marion Gaevert** and **Gerry Frisch**. Hopefully, your cards, calls and prayers will help in getting them up and flying on schedule soon.

Calendar:

Meeting every Friday morning at Holders Country Inn, De Anza Road (across from Home Depot). Breakfast starts at 8:00 AM with meeting at 9:00 am. All UA retirees are welcome. Please call our President, **Dave Saso**, (408) 266-9347 for details.

February 27 - Magic "Theme" breakfast.

Happy St. Patrick's Day



SAN JOAQUINERS

Rosie Walls
10416 9th Street
P.O. Box 1372
Jamestown, CA 95327-1372
(209) 984-5672
jawrmw@sbcglobal.net

Since we did not have a luncheon and meeting in January, I really do not have much to report. We all needed time to recoup from the holidays. January just flew by and I am sure February will fly by just as fast since there are only 28 days this month and as of right now, 6 have already passed me by in a flash.

I have some sad news to report. **Skip Sonderman** passed away on January 25th. Skip was a long time member and a former president of the San Joaquiners. He had been struggling with health problems for quite sometime. Condolences may be sent to Betty and family at 19859 Via Redondo, Sonora, CA 95370.

Hope you all had a Happy Valentine's Day. We want to wish you all a very happy St. Patrick's Day. Hope you all enjoy that green beer and good health and good luck to all.

The San Joaquiners meet the second Thursday of each month. New retirees are always welcome; come and join us. If you have any questions, please contact me at (209) 984-5672 or our President **Joan Verbaere** at (916) 682-6148.

EAST BAY DIABLOS

Contra Costa County
Diane Griego
1634 Nuala Street
Concord, CA 94518
(925) 676-6097
diangriego@aol.com



Our January meeting was held on the 12th with 24 members and guests attending. Welcome back to **Frances Oda**, one of our newest members and her guest **Jennie Young**, SFOSW. **Ed Bingle** was accompanied by his friend, Marc.

Ed Bingle won the 50/50 and **Lou Kinhead** was the winner of the Marie Callender's pie.

Marilyn & Hoagie Harguth were absent for good reason. Marilyn had unexpected open heart surgery. She is recuperating at home with Hoagie's care. We wish her a speedy recovery and return to us!

We meet the 2nd Monday of each month at Marie Callender's Restaurant in Concord. Social time from 11:00 to 12:00, then lunch and business. No need for reservations. We encourage you to all come and bring your significant others. We have a great group from many departments.

Calendar:

March 9 - Meeting

April 13 - Meeting

May 11 - Meeting

June 8 - Annual picnic

COLORADO



DENVER MILE HIGHERS

Tom Goodyear
9341 E. Jewell Circle
Denver, CO 80231
(303) 696-7001
tagoodyear@aol.com

The first Sat. in Feb. brought 45 people to the Mile Highers breakfast at United's Training Center. **Virgil Gooselaw** brought his grandson **Christopher Roberts**. **Martha Gooselaw** brought her daughter **Dayna Roberts**. And, yes they are all related. We are always happy to have visitors, apprentice retirees and wanabe retirees. Come on back, we enjoy your company!

Our sympathy goes to **Jim Ogden** whose wife passed away. If you would like to send Jim a sympathy card his address is 893 South Evanston Circle, Aurora, CO 80021-3821. Since our last breakfast, we received word that three of our members has passed on: **Dick Magee** on 1/7/09, 11275 Jamaica St., Henderson, CO 80640; **Don (Buck) Raymer** on 1/22/09, 14300 W. Bell Rd. #329, Surprise, AZ 85374 and **Dan Mahoney**, passing date unknown, 12607 W. Rampart Dr., Sun City West, AZ 85375. Our condolences go out to the families and cards may be sent to the addresses listed.

We received a "Thank You" card from **Dottie Chin** (**Dick Magee's** daughter) for the card and flowers that the Mile Highers sent to the family.

Irma Atanasio is going to have right shoulder rotator cuff surgery. Our prayers are with Irma.

The whole group sang happy birthday to **Bill Chambers**, today was his 39th birthday and he is holding. **Tony Lopez** has moved to an assisted living home in Durango, CO. No address for Tony at this time, we hope to have his new address in time for the next newsletter. **Thom Rowland** is vacationing in Florida.

Two folks returned their 50/50 winnings to the chapter: **Lonnie Kemp** and **Gene Sibley**. Thanks folks.

*The Spring Luncheon will be on **April 22, 2009** at **Bennett's BBQ**, 3700 North Peoria, Aurora, CO. Cocktail hour will start at 11:00 and lunch at 12:00. We will be served Family Style and the entrees include Pork and Beef Brisket, French Fries, Beans, Cold Slaw, Garlic Bread. Desert is Peach Cobbler. Drinks are non alcoholic drinks, coffee and tea. All for only \$16.00 per person!*

*Make checks payable to RUAEA Denver Chapter. Send to **Harriet Ahr**, 4576 Hooker St., Denver, CO 80211-1354, phone (303) 477-2918. **Deadline is April 17, 2009.***

Calendar:

Breakfast 1st Sat. each month, 9:00 AM at Denver Flight Training Center Cafeteria - DENTK. Call **Tom Goodyear** for information, directions, (303) 696-7001. Remember to bring your pop cans. Bring a fellow retiree!

PIKES PEAK

Chuck Stuller
1135 Beta Loop
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
(719) 475-2073
chuck.stuller@hotmail.com



We had a great meeting on January 19th at the Village Inn attended by 10 people. Plans were made for an April lunch; date, time and place to be determined by **Noria Gerig** and the social committee. Hopefully, some other retirees will be able to attend a lunch meeting. Also, more officers were selected and **John Holody** will be our Treasurer and his wife **Wendie Holody** will volunteer on the social committee. **Chuck Stuller** is correspondence secretary and newsletter. **Del Hall** serves as our founder.

Debbie Knisley's (DENSW) son Brett Forrest is back at CU Boulder and still needs our kind thoughts. **Tom Jay** (former DTWRR) is not feeling well and could use a card or two.

Colorado Springs resident, Air Force Academy Graduate (1975) and United Captain **John Wolter** (55) passed away December 19, 2008 from complications from a staph infection according to The Gazette. Friend and fellow Oakland retiree **Al Beebe** passed away January 13, 2009 at his home in San Lorenzo, CA. He will be missed. Some may know his son **Darien Beebe**. Al was a WWII and Korean War Veteran and was a regular attendee of the Oakland Airport Retired Employee Lunch Group and enjoyed playing golf.

Our meetings are held the third Monday at 0830 at The Village Inn on Harrison Road near Circle and I-25.

Calendar:

February 16 – Regular meeting (Presidents Day, bring your favorite flag)

March 16 – Regular breakfast meeting

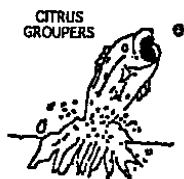
April – Spring Lunch - TBA

April 20 – Regular breakfast meeting



FLORIDA

CITRUS GROUPEERS



Inverness, FL
Claus Brinnitzer
3014 S. Skyline Dr.
Inverness, FL 34450-7424
(352) 637-1760
cjbrinnit@tampabay.rr.com

In lieu of your regular correspondent **Claus Brinnitzer**, who underwent surgery recently and is not quite up to the task of reporting, this report is being furnished by **Jo Beck**.

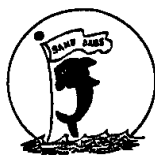
Following a letter writing campaign to the UAL retirees in The Villages area, the Citrus Groupers had an attendance of 46 retirees at their January 22nd luncheon held at the Golden Corral in The Villages with the Florida Director **Paul Brown** acting as host for the meeting.

A business meeting was held following the luncheon and **Jerry Bell** was elected as Pres. for the group and agreed to shoulder the responsibility. **Paul Brown** brought the group up to date on UAL & RUAEA's news and answered questions for those with concern.

Our monthly meetings will continue to be held on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Golden Corral. Several bottles of wine were given as door prizes for which we thank Paul Brown.

SAND"DABS"

Daytona Beach
Bobbie Rieck
615 Yupon AV
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169
(386) 427-0514



It was a very cold and windy day here in Florida, very unusual weather for us. But the group of Sand"DABS" that met at Halifax Yacht Club enjoyed the warmth of friendship we have together.

Prez **Dick Coughlin** opened our meeting and we had our usual pledge to the flag and opening prayer. I didn't count the attendance, but we were a smaller group than usual. But it was a very nice setting in the new building of the Yacht Club for a very nice time together.

When Treas. **Penny Logan** came in, she had on a really "fancy" neck brace. She had neck fusion surgery in Jan. and is still in recovery and not able to drive. Her hubby **Omar** came with her and it was good to see him. We had our winter visitors, the **Rankins** are back with us again. Also with us was **Paul Brown**, our FL RUAEA Director. He gave a brief talk, letting us know about the Arizona Convention. He also reported that our organization's membership is shrinking as well as revenue. The price of the newsletter will be going up to

\$25 annually. All attempts to contact **Jane Kress** by **Lillian Moddle** were unsuccessful. We hope Jane is doing well.

We celebrated two Jan. birthdays since we had no meeting then. **Anne Johnson** & **Steve Moddle** got our rendition of Happy Birthday and each blew out the candle on our "fake cake". No Feb. birthday celebrants were present. Anniversary celebrants present were **Lowell** & **Anne Johnson** - 52 yrs. and **Penny** & **Omar Logan** - 35 yrs. Company Anniversary was **Dick Coughlin** - 43 yrs.

At joke time, Prez Dick had a few funny ones, especially a poem, and also the trouble Noah would have building an ark in 2008. After our 50/50 drawing, we had two other drawings for cute little gift boxes filled with candies, made by yours truly. Penny gave a Treas. report. We are slowly building up the treasury again. She mentioned receiving a thank you from Hospice for the memorial gift we sent in honor of **Martha Priehs**.

Dick brought us up to date on his son who had a terrible industrial accident 1½ yrs. ago. He is coming along really well since his last disc surgery & has high hopes of being able to finally get back to work real soon. We collected a large basket of baby things for the Pregnancy Center. Frieda will see that these gifts get delivered to them soon. Frieda also mentioned that our Travel Agent Danny is getting a Casta cruise together to the Caribbean in Nov. for 7 days for anyone interested. The prices seemed very reasonable. He will have a bus leave from Daytona to take the group to the ship. Anyone interested, see either Dick or Frieda for a brochure.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY: *A shin is a very useful thing to have as it helps you find furniture in the dark.*

Calendar:

March 5 - 11:30 - Red Lobster

April 2 - 11:30 - Red Lobster

May 7 - 11:30 - Red Lobster



THE ORLANDO REAL McCOYS

Elaine Tillman-Mannella
7953 Canyon Lake Circle
Orlando, FL 32835
(407) 523-6983
emt6250@yahoo.com

The Golden Corral may NEVER be the same! Forty three Real McCoys gathered for our February meeting & luncheon and four welcomed guests completed the group. Retiree **Bob O'Connor** (ORDMM) and wife, Cathy were visiting snowbird friends, Ken & Esther in Clermont. Bob got in touch with **Mert Lawry** and **Maggi Gates**, who not only came to our luncheon, but became members of the McCoys today, along with

Bobby Smith (MCOCG)! "Great to see you again" greetings also to **John Wiseman, Marilyn & Marlin Lade** and **Joe & Barb Fitak**!

Happy Birthday – February 23rd to **Nan Multeri** and some Big Happy Anniversary Wishes to **Norma & Bill Butchart** – 55 years on February 27th and to **Marlin & Marilyn Lade** – 57 years on February 23rd.

Prayers and well wishes – cards too – for **Matt McNeill** – he is still at East Orlando Health & Rehab Center, Chickasaw Tr. (call Mary's cell 407-766-0545 between 12-5pm).

RUAEA Director **Paul Brown** joined us for lunch. He advised that the PBGC is gearing up to send out the "Formal Determination Letter" that will explain the benefits they will pay and may include a benefit statement. You will have the right to appeal within 45 days from the date you receive the determination and all is handled through the PBGC.

We filled the back of President **Rich Llewellyn**'s van with donations of food and toiletries for the Central Florida Children's Home today. Thanks to everyone!

Stan Halterman's traveling opportunities include:

- ★ May 11-15 – Motor coach 5days/4nites: Savannah, Jekyll Island & Beaufort, 4 nights, 8 meals, tours in each city. Amazing at \$399/pp/dbl
- ★ August 13-21, 2009 – Yosemite Trip, including SFO, LAX, SAN
- ★ November 2009 – Branson, MO - 9days/8nights @ \$800.00

Contact Stan at (407) 852-6773.

Calendar

1st Wed. of the Month – Luncheon meeting at the Golden Corral, 2323 S. Semoran Blvd. (just south of CurryFord Road) at 12:30 pm.

March 4 – Luncheon Meeting

April 1 – Our Annual Picnic, NO FOOLIN', location to be determined soon!

May 6 – Luncheon Meeting

June 3 – Luncheon Meeting

Favorite Restaurant Dinner Nights have begun again!

March 18 - Location was not decided. Email Elaine after the March 4th luncheon.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

PELICAN DROP-INS

Fort Myers, Florida

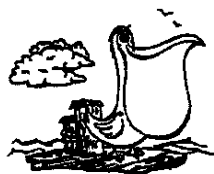
Sandy Pryde

10275 Bismark Palm Way, #1121

Fort Myers, FL 33966-6968

(239)-418-1034

jspryde@msn.com



January 9, for their first luncheon in the New Year! This was a week later than our regularly scheduled time (thus we missed the cut off in January for submitting this report to RUAEA). We had a large group - 24 persons in attendance. Lunch was delicious and it was another beautiful day in Florida!

President **Bill Burg** welcomed everyone including **Paul & Ingrid Olson** (new members), **Judy & Ed Clarke** (snowbirds returned south), **Marilyn McNabb** (missed for a few months because of medical reasons), **Joan Gikison** and her visiting granddaughter **Kelly, Rosemary Blake** (gone since Fall to see new grandchild, etc.), plus **Rip Patisini** and **Bee McCarthy-Manos** whom we hadn't seen for awhile. The president also noted that **Wanda Schmoyer** was missed because she was having knee surgery this day. Treasurer **Mel Volz** shared the financial report to date. It was suggested and agreed by the chapter to send a \$100 donation to the Memorial in Pennsylvania for United Flight 93 that went down on 9/11/01.

The program was presented by **Dave Swanson** from **Metro Crime Prevention of Florida**, a FL non-profit corporation. He gave us an awareness of how we can protect our homes and ourselves from criminal activity. He displayed all kinds of items that can be used to safeguard against a home invasion or an attack in a public places, particularly parking lots. It was a very informative presentation.

The monthly 50/50 raffle was won by **Tom McNabb** and there were lots of donated items for our regular raffle so we had lots of "winners." Of course, **Maxine Brown** won, although she was the very "last" winner this month! She's the luckiest person!

February 2009 report: The Pelican Drop-Ins met on Friday, February 6th, at Sabal Springs Golf and Tennis Club for lunch. There were 22 persons in attendance. President **Bill Burg** gave an update on members **Marilyn McNabb** and **Wanda Schmoyer** who have missed the last couple of meetings because of medical procedures and health issues. **John Dainus** had recent rotator cuff surgery but attended with his wife.

Jerry Pryde introduced his neighbor and friend who was "pinch hitting" as our program for the day, due to the cancellation of our scheduled speaker. **Lynda Bragg** from Dayton, OH gave a delightful presentation on **Paul Laurence Dunbar**, a poet from Dayton who lived to only 33 years of age, was the son of former slaves, was friends with Wilbur and Orville Wright, and has many schools across the USA named in his honor today. She shared lots of historical information on his life as well as some photos. She read a few of his poems, and had really good audience participation in one! Following the program, we had our 50/50 raffle that was won by **Sandy Pryde**. Other raffle winners were **Mel & Linda Volz, Bibianne Schultz, John Dainus, Lynda**

January 2009 report: The Pelican Drop-Ins met at Sabal Spring Golf and Tennis Club at noon on Friday,

Bragg. Newly compiled membership booklets were distributed by **Mel Volz.** Mel also reported he received a request by phone to have the donation we made in December for the United Flight 93 memorial be directed to the chapel that will be built at the site. Members were in agreement.

Calendar:

1st Friday of the month:

Luncheon meeting at: Sabal Springs Golf and Racquet Club (**October-May**)

Breakfast meeting at Perkins Restaurant, North Ft. Myers (**June-September**)

For more information call or email:

Marge Burg (Port Charlotte) (941)697-8086 or burgmarge@aol.com

Sandy Pryde(Fort Myers) cell (837)331-5845 or jspryde@msn.com



TAMPA BAY

Palm Harbor, FL

Carolyn Lodge, Acting Secretary

6326 Gentle Ben Circle

Wesley Chapel, FL 33544

dizfanmom1@aol.com

24 members attended the Feb. 2nd meeting. There were no reported birthdays or anniversaries for Feb.

Travel - **Jon Wilkinson** and **Edith Cargill** took a 10 day Princess Cruise from Fort Lauderdale. They stated that Aruba was not worth visiting. **Ron & Willie Wilkinson** went to New Orleans and Biloxi. No air travel was reported. Jon reported that getting to and from Tampa International Airport is much easier since the road repairs and reconfiguration.

New Business - **O.C. Brown** stated the problems with switching from BCBS and switching back again. **Jon Wilkinson** reported on the picnic at Anderson Park on April 6, 2009.

Dick Newman reported that his wife has emphysema and they discovered that UAL could not accommodate this on their travel overseas. They did find out that Delta could.

Jim Hottel reported on the ZED fares.

Paul Brown was our guest speaker from Orlando. He gave us all the latest news regarding UAL new routes, changes, closings and retirees information.

Jon Wilkinson reported on all the information that he had gotten on the computer regarding UAL. He also reported that **Diane Dede** was not doing well.

Sunshine Committee - **Terri Breslin** stated that **Bob Taylor** was again in the hospital but is at home now and under Hospice care. She stated that they were glad to see **Dave Lodge** back. Terri also passed a sign up sheet for shows that are being held at The Show Palace.

President **Lindstrom** read headlines from various articles pertaining to United and Retiree news.

Calendar:

March 2 - 10:00AM meeting at Tiffany's.

April 6 - Spring Picnic at Anderson Park - 11AM

TREASURE COAST

Stuart, FL

M. Jane Kerr

1372 SW California Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34953

(772) 343 0709



On this beautiful Feb. 3rd, 15 members & 2 guests arrived at Mulligan's for our Luncheon/Meeting, I was a little late. Pres. **Al Popek** started the meeting with a moment of silence for **Michael Hirjak** who passed away in Jan. & the daughter of **Luster Smith**. **Mari Hirjak** was in attendance, we all gave her our sincere condolences, she is doing as well as can be expected.

Wally Armstrong was with us as was his wife **Elizabeth**, Wally was looking well after his recent surgery. **Chris Taylor** has been home ill since mid January with a serious bacterial infection in her lungs, if you would like to send her a card, her address is 8522 Lidflower Court, Port St. Lucie, FL 34952. We all send her get well wishes and hope she will be fully recovered by our next meeting. Just as I was getting ready to attend the meeting, I received a call from **Constantinos Xifaras**, that he and **Celina** would not be able to attend the meeting since Celina has minor surgery on her face and wasn't feeling her best. Get well soon Celina, we miss you. **Bobbie Vitel**, **Judy Frage's** mother, will be spending a few days in the hospital, if you would like to send a card, send it in c/o Judy Frage 737 SW Ancona Road, Port St. Lucie, FL 34953. Let's keep the illness down folks as best we can!

Jet Blue is now \$50.00 a segment and to read all details, go to Sky Net. Last month, we mentioned you would have further details but the only new item other than this fare is getting a new letter from the Benefits Department at UAL.

The **Carraghers** brought guests again this time and they were none other than American Airlines spies! They were **Bernie & Monica O'hanlon** from Long Island, Bernie is retired from AA and worked at LGA airport in Line Cargo. They hopefully will be able to attend our March meeting even though the Carraghers will be in New York for a short visit attending the St Patrick's Day parade! Bernie mentioned that he wished AA retirees had groups around the country for their retirees and we suggested that perhaps he should start a group in New York. Aren't we a helpful group though!

Barbara Dodenhoff won the 50/50 and **Judy**

Frage won the progressive.

Diane & Paul Liebisch, Barbara Dodenhoff, and Artie & Judy Frage, Sr. will be leaving on a cruise the end of March and the **O'Hanlons** are thinking about joining them. We shall see ... **Diane & Ron Brodis** just returned from a seven day cruise! What a life!

We are a small intimate group but we have lots of laughs and great conversation, not just airline stuff either, so why not join us and enjoy the fun and a terrific lunch.

On the lighter side:

Now that I'm older, here's what I've discovered:

1. *I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.*
2. *My wild oats have turned into prunes and All Bran*
3. *I finally got my head together, now my body is falling apart.*
4. *Funny, I don't remember being absent minded*
5. *All reports are in. Life is now officially unfair.*
6. *If all is not lost, where is it?*
7. *It is easier to get older than it is to get wiser.*
8. *Some days you're the dog, some days you're the hydrant.*
9. *I wish the buck stopped here, I sure could use a few.*
10. *Kids in the back seat cause accidents.*
11. *Accidents in the back seat cause ... kids.*
12. *It's had to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.*
13. *Only time the world beats a path to your door is when you're in the bathroom.*
14. *If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees.*
15. *When I'm finally holding all the cards, why does everyone decide to play chess?*
16. *It's not hard to meet expenses, they're everywhere.*
17. *The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.*
18. *These days I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter ... I go somewhere to get something and then wonder what I'm here after!*

Calendar:

March 3 – Luncheon/Meeting, 12:30PM - Mulligan's Jensen Beach, FL

April 7 – Luncheon/Meeting, 12:30Pm - Mulligan's Jensen Beach, FL

May 5 – Luncheon/Meeting, 12:30Pm - Mulligan's Jensen Beach, FL

St. Patrick's Day is an enchanted time - a day to begin transforming winter's dreams into summer's magic.

-Adrienne Cook

GEORGIA

DIXIE FLYERS

Metro Atlanta, Georgia
Diayne Thompson
118 Circle H Rd.
Sharpsburg, GA 30277-2524
(770) 251-0635
dixflyers@charter.net



Thirty seven flyers and five guests were in attendance at the lunch at I-Hop in Fayetteville, Georgia on February 4th. Our guests were **George Christy, Elmer & Lois Koldoff's** young grandson, **Melissa Lane, Tina Meyers, Lyle & Joanna Meyers'** daughters, **David Johnson**, retired from ATL ramp, and **Terri Wilson, Bogie & Jody Wallace's** daughter. A hearty welcome to all. It was a very good turnout considering it was a very cold and windy day. One of the coldest of the season. Also in attendance were **Bill & Wormie Bowling**. Good to see Wormie out and about once again, also **Ray Owen** who just went through shoulder surgery in January. **Don Shelley** also recently had shoulder surgery and is doing very well. **Marge Shelley** has injured her knee last week and is in therapy now. We hope she will be back up and running soon.

Pres. **Bill Elk** held a short business meeting and talked about the more recent station closings at United. IND, DAY, TUS, MIA, and BTW. Also the 1000 more layoffs that will be coming. Most people know or know of employees that will be affected. United and other carriers have recently been testing and evaluating bio-fuels. This may help the carriers with the huge costs for fuel. Glenn Tilton, in an interview, said that UAL will still be able to survive even if the economic downturn continues on this year. United is in the process of testing paperless bag tags with 1K Frequent Flyers. The tags will be RF electronic devices, (RFID) and will be scanned separately from the current system. These tests are expected to last about 6 weeks. Retirees have expressed interest in hearing company news and happenings they might not hear about normally, especially those that do not have computers, or access to the internet. Some rely on the newsletter for a lot of their information.

Fred Cron, our 50/50 Director assisted by **Willie Foles**, conducted our drawing this month. Our guest **Melissa Lane** drew the winning ticket held by **Barney Knotts**, who in turn graciously donated the prize to the Promise Place. Barney has been pretty lucky with our 50/50s in recent times. Way to go Barney! The People at the Promise Place are very appreciative and thankful for your kindness and generosity.

It is our pleasure to report that **Ron & Marge Heider** will be celebrating their 58th wedding anniversary

on February 10. Congratulations from all, and best wishes for many more. On a sadder note, **Bogie Wallace's** brother, **James Joseph Wallace** of Knoxville, TN, passed away on January 25th at the age of 73. James, who was a flight operations scheduler and planner with United at Chicago's ORD retired with 37 years service to his home town of Knoxville, TN. He started out with Capital in Washington's DCA Ramp, then moved to Chicago where he finished his career. Also, **Don Shelley** reported that **Jim Murrell** passed away on January 29th in Brandon, FL. For those who would remember, Jim worked at ATL Ramp, and retired from TPA. All the Flyers hearts and prayers go out to their families and friends. Now that the "Ground Hog" has officially seen his shadow, let's hope the 6 more weeks of winter will be a on the mild side.

Calendar:

March 4 – Lunch at 12:00 Noon - I-Hop, Fayetteville, GA

IDAHO

BOISE GEMS

Bill Heath
361 Charlwood Ct.
Boise, ID 83706
(208) 336-5359
wahboi@quickidaho.com



At our breakfast meeting on Jan. 5, only 4 members showed up, thanks to a snowstorm that made driving hazardous, but they re-elected **Rick Dempsey** as chapter president. **Shirley Dempsey**, however, opted out as co-president, for she has volunteered to help out with the pending 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games, which start out Feb. 7 in Boise. Congratulations, Rick, and a big thanks to Shirley for volunteering for the Special Olympics. Some 3,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities, & others interested in the event, are arriving daily from all over the world. (It could bring \$42 million to the state of Idaho.)

Our luncheon at Pad Thai on Jan. 28 was most successful, with a good turnout of GEMs, & a delicious authentic Thai menu. Our waiter, named **Eman**, who has always been there for us, came in on his day off to make sure that we received the usual excellent service. We knew he was Filipino, not Thai, and that he would soon be leaving Boise for his Philippine Island homeland (in Manila), to train to be a chef. **Ned Yundt** explained this to the group, & wished him well. Our faithful correspondent then presented Eman with a UAL cap and model Mainliner (to remember us by), and welcomed him as an honorary member of the Boise RUAEA Chapter.

Walt Anderson, who is still celebrating the outcome of the Super Bowl XLIII, wore his Steelers' jacket to the breakfast meeting (with 20 in attendance) on Feb. 2. Although I was pulling for the AZ Cardinals, I thought the last 5 minutes was the most exciting part of the whole event.

Denny Snyder, who has yet to miss a meeting of the GEMs, was with us at the Feb. 2 breakfast. His right arm is in a sling (for two long months) as a result of rotator-cuff surgery. That means he can't raise his right arm yet for a while, & that's when the therapy starts. That also means he won't be flying his Cessna 172 for a while. **Gloria Trotter** missed the big snow in Boise, by leaving for Christmas holiday in Sacramento, even though she says she likes snow for Christmas. However, she didn't mind missing it, for "*it was nice being in California with family and friends.*"

Happy Feb. Birthdays To These GEMs: **Dave Adams, Marlene Groghan, Ossie Haugen, Lil Jolly, Sharon Kolins, Ann Rose, Bill Heath**, & notables Abe Lincoln, & George Washington.

Calendar:

Feb. 24 - 1PM Luncheon at Lucky Palace, 8630 Overland Road in Boise

March 2 – 9AM Breakfast at JB's in Meridian

April 6 - 9AM Breakfast at JB's in Meridian

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO SKYLINERS



Esther Broderson
51 Bonnie Lane
Clarendon Hills IL 60514-1409
(630) 323-8677
estherales@aol.com

February Anniversaries were celebrated by **Luella & Ralph Brooks** (52 years) and **Liesel & Al Schroeder** (54 years). Many happy returns in this Valentine's month.

Dee Cappitelli decided to give "coming to the Northside breakfast" a second chance. It keeps getting better all the time, just like the weather.

John Horsley had a massive heart attack the first of the year. A card to cheer him would be very welcome. His address is 547 Grosvener Court, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007.

From Barcelona, **Joyce & Frank Calderone** boarded a trans Atlantic cruise arriving in Houston, TX Dec. 14, 2008. Dec. 26th saw them boarding a flight to Colombia. S.A., where they were treated like royals by their daughter-in-law's parents and family. The "Farm" was more like one of our U.S. resorts. After three days with family, they took in the sights and a bull fight in

Cali. They are still remembering it all.

A different type of Christmas highlight was a trip to Seattle and greeting a brand new great-grandson for **Elaine & Dave Dore**.

Our Skyliner Directory has 329 paid up member and 146 members in arrears. If dues are not paid by 4/1/09, these members will be come inactive and dropped from the mailing list for 2009 activities and luncheons. Dues can be sent to **John Koehl**, 2 Pepperell on Asbury, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

The Spring Fling will be on Wednesday, March 25th at the Wellington. The charge will be 18 dollars for prime rib, chicken breast, broiled salmon or a veggie plate. Flyers are being processed and deadline for sign up will be March 15th. Mark your calendars for the July 27th picnic again at Chandlers. The cost will be 18 dollars. To handle the crowd faster during the lunch selection, there will be an extra buffet table. The golf cart transportation will continue.

We have two new planning committee members: Welcome **Marlene Anderson** and **Ron Artman**.

Agnes Pearson finished all her therapy after a total knee replacement just in time to be the coordinator for the southwest side of Chicago for the World Day of Prayer, this is her tenth year of celebrating. On March 6th, her church, Calvary Lutheran will host 16 participating Protestant and Catholic churches. It is at 52nd and Kenneth.

Sixteen attended the Southside breakfast in January and the lucky winners were **Carmen Chavez**, **Margaret Schmitt** and **Ed Ward**. **Bob Pearson** did the raffle running in the absence of **Caryle Brandt**, who decided he needed some warm air in Los Angeles.

Calendar:

Southside Brunch – Breakfast at Jedi's Restaurant (**February 24 & March 31**) at 9:30 a.m., 9266 S. Cicero, Oak Lawn, IL.

Northsiders Breakfast – Artemis Restaurant (**March 11**) at 9:00 a.m. Golf & Busse Hwy., Mt. Prospect, IL.

Food depository - First Tuesday (**March 3**).

March 25 - Spring Fling at the Wellington.

LOOP GROUP

Chicago
Lillian Mallstrom
1109 Cleveland Avenue
Park Ridge, IL 60068-5507
(847) 823-5062
Roenavy56@aol.com



With Spring arriving, we hope to see some Snow Birds back as well as the regular members and welcome any new guests to come and join us for the March 18th Luncheon.

Ginny Vlach, one of our regular attendees, is having back surgery early February. By the time you read this column, Ginny should be recovered and probably attending our next luncheon. Get well wishes can be sent to: 404 S. Albert St., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056.

Ron Madsen, another of our regular luncheon members, has moved to Heritage of Des Plaines, 800 S. River Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016. There are friends who may not have this information and would like to keep in touch with Ron.

Please email or call me before noon of March 17th so that we can let the restaurant know the number of guests to expect.

Calendar:

March 18 – Luncheon at the Renaissance Chicago Hotel @ State & Lake Streets (Great Street Restaurant) – 11:30 a.m.

May 20 – Luncheon Cancelled due to conflict with RUAEA Convention in Phoenix week of May 17-24.

INDIANA

INDY RACERS

Indianapolis, IN
Wanda Bryce, Correspondent
6801 Stanley Road
Camby, IN 46113
(317) 821-8862
Wnd190@cs.com



Yes! The Steelers won their “6 pack” (remember I’m a “burg” kid). The sun is finally shining, the thermometer is to be in the “50’s” this week and I just saw two robins. Maybe “Punxsutawney Phil” was wrong, could it be? One can only hope.

Not too much is happening in INDY during these chilly, snowy days. However, we are anxiously waiting to hear the events of the hot Panama Canal cruise taken recently by **Ellie & Bud Barnett** and **Dimple & Dave Rihel**. They have had this trip on their calendar for sometime. They were flying to San Diego to leave from there; with plans for a little sightseeing before the cruise, and then ending in Florida. Word was also received from our snowbirds in Texas, **Gail & Warren Allen**. They told us how warm it was.

We were delighted **Lanny Horn** attended our Jan. meeting. We hope his schedule permits him to become a regular. **Mario Bregante** was fighting a nasty cold and along with **Mike Matlak** and **Jim Gibson**, were missed at the Jan. meeting. I recently stopped to visit with **Cheri & Ron Innis** and found **Ron** was recovering from cataract eye surgery. This should put a different light on things for him whenever he is recovered.

Thankfully, **Hannelore Brabo** is feeling a little bet-

ter with her broken rib, but continue to keep her in your prayers as well as **Terry Martin** and **Lilea Theiss**.

Our sympathies to the family of **Ralph Dunn**, retired from INDAAF, but were living in Orlando, Florida.

Calendar:

March 9 – Regular meeting Golden Corral, 2224 E. Hadley Rd., Plainfield, IN. Meeting room available at 2PM, meeting begins at 3PM

MASSACHUSETTS

NOR'EASTERS

New England
Dick Vee Vecchione
107 Bunker Hill Road
Auburn, NH 03032-3521
(603) 483-8204
NH4Vee@aol.com



No meeting this month, so little news.

This offering is coming from sunny Florida, where I'm currently flocking with snow birds and turning a nice shade of copper. Although, we recently had some cold nights that made me think I was back in New England. Also here is **Jayne & John Regan**. Jayne's X-rays show her currently cancer free. Way to go Jayne!

Our Treasurer, **Bill Vanderwal & Elaine** also are getting a couple of weeks here on a southern FL vacation. President **Carleen Eddy** flew standby to TN, leaving 3 degree Boston behind, only to land in Knoxville at 19 degrees. Upon returning home, found her water pipes had frozen and bursted. Not good! **Don & Kathy Latter** got a couple weeks at a Club Med at the Turk & Cacos Island. Great weather, great food and never had to drive anywhere. Unfortunately, now Don is walking behind his snow blower, keeping his shovel handy and freezing his derriere off under layers of clothing.

Sad to hear about the passing of **Herman Kline**, formally BOSCG, a member of the Sand Dollar chapter. Herman was well known at our end of the realm.

Calendar:

March – To be announced.

MICHIGAN

GREAT LAKES ESCAPEES

Detroit, Michigan
Marie Cook
9588 West Parkway
Redford, MI 48239-1331
(313) 534-0065
marie-cook@sbcglobal.net



February 5th, 17 Escapees gathered at the New Pe-

king in Garden City, hosted by **Maxine Raymond**. Everyone received an early valentine of a chocolate covered heart with miscellaneous fillings, so good for the sweet-tooth. **Marcy Vance** shared pictures of her trip to Thailand, where she has been since our Jan. meeting. Fearless Marcy even had pictures of herself sitting next to a Bengal Tiger and stroking his fur. She did admit that she was sure he was drugged, for those Kodak moments. She also was very excited that they got premier first class all the way and it was wonderful. She also admitted that they traveled on Super Bowl Sunday which could be the reason.

Your Escapee correspondent had a broken reminder last month so missed sending the Escapee February Report. Oops! Even worse, she did not realize it until she downloaded her RUEA NL and noticed it missing. She searched both her paper and computer files, but could not find it anywhere and was so sure she wrote it. Maybe she needs a replacement.

Jan. 8, our first meeting of 2009 and thankfully a non WX day, 25 Escapees and 1¼ guests, daughter Jeen Marie and baby Ian, gathered at grandma's holiday festive house, loaded with snow people, hosted by Marie and sister Joan. Dagwood's Deli in Farmington once again did a great job of catering along with overflowing veggie and fruit trays prepared by Robbie, another grandson, made for good eating's. Homemade cookies and spumoni ice cream desserts along with great camaraderie made for a fun-filled day, which lasted from 1100 to 2030. **Rhea Jay** brought pictures of the grand opening of DTWRR in Dearborn, Aug 1972. This brought back many memories and the struggle of all our memories to place names to several of the pictures. HELP! One memory that was not forgotten was when **George Pilon** walked through the glass wall thinking it was a door and when UA replaced it, they had a big sticker in the middle to protect anyone else of making that mistake again.

Many of our Escapee Family is in need of our love and prayers. **Marlene Presnell** (DTWRR) @ 8016 Pardee Road, Taylor, MI 48180-2322, has been in and out of the hospital most of Dec. and has learned that her lung cancer has returned. **Kathy Franz**'s (DTWRR) infant grandson, William is in need of our prayers. The soft spot on William's head is closing too fast, which gives the brain no room to develop. Our love and prayers to Kathy and family @ 10804 Andrews Ave, Allen Park, MI 48101. Wishing **Susy Castora** (DTWRR/TR/GRTR) prayers and a speedy recovery from a broken arm @ 3126 Riverwoods Dr. NE, Rockford, MI 49341-9264. I also heard **Marilyn Nadal** (DTWRR) is very ill and waiting a liver transplant. No other details or contact for Marilyn but please keep her in your prayers, along with all our hurting UA family.

Lastly, many of our loved ones have gone to their

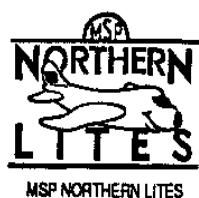
eternal life. **Joanna O'Brien's** beloved **Joe** suffered a stroke while en route PHX-ORD on Christmas morning. After spending several days in a CHI hospital, he was air lifted back to PHX as he hated the cold and just wanted to go home to warm. Joanna (DTWRR/DTWTR) was so happy when he opened his eyes and saw he was home @ 34118 North 66th Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85266 and gave everyone a thumbs-up before he left for his heavenly home. Joanna says when it gets warmer, maybe June or July, she is bringing Joe back for a memorial in MI and I will let you know when I hear anything more.

Linda Price (DTWRR) lost her hubby, **Todd** after a 3 year long battle with Alzheimer's, on Dec 14. Condolences to Linda @ 9156 SE 125th Loop, Summerfield, FL 34491. **Frank Sapelak** (DTWTR) retired for several years now, has also gone to his everlasting home. Love and prayers to wife Julia @ 25801 So. Ontario Dr., Sun lakes, AZ 85248. I also heard that **Lil Wheldon** (DTWSS/DTWRR) has gone home to be with the Lord. I heard that husband **Mark** did have services in NV and do not know if they will also have services in MI. Condolences to Mark and family @ 2418 Rue De Bourdeaux, Henderson, NV 89014.

Calendar:

First Thursday of the month, location varies, please call or e-mail.

MINNESOTA



NORTHERN LITES

MSP/St. Paul
Connie Glattly
82300 Wold Road
Willow River, MN 55795
(218) 372-3973
crglattly@frontiernet.net

Jan.'s group numbered 25, which was not too bad considering the "weather outside was frightful" ~ a real, old-fashioned Minnesota Jan. day with sub-zero temperatures. The snowbirds' ears were ringing that day.

El Presidente **Lee Storlie** related an incident which our friend, **Jim Simon**, experienced while visiting in CA. He & two friends were happily flying along in their Cessna 400 in the vicinity of Oakland Coliseum when they hit unexpected turbulence & downdraft. Jim estimated that they dropped about 500 ft before recovering. Yikes! I wonder how many of them had to do laundry when they got back.

A reminder that due to the downturn in the economy, mandatory withdrawals from IRA accounts has been suspended for 2009 *except* (there's always some of those *excepts*) if you turned 70½ in 2008 and delayed

taking the distribution until 2009. Then you still gotta take it this year. If you must take a distribution this year due to the above-mentioned exception, at least the required percentage of your IRAs will result in a smaller amount! Since probably most of our IRAs have taken a substantial hit lately, hopefully this will allow time for some recovery in the bottom line before having to again make withdrawals in 2010.

There's a purportedly *wonderful* website out there about calculating ZED fares on other airlines & getting info about seat availability as well. However, it's unfortunately not available to retirees, I guess. Our best bet is to check the "Travel" section on Skynet.

In the On-the-Mend department, **Bernie Hazekamp** had back surgery. He's reported to be doing well.

Tessa Leseberg lost her mother recently; our condolences to her and her family. We hope to see Tessa again soon.

Lyle & Sonja Gunderson have stayed the winter here on the Great Frozen Tundra instead of joining the convoy down I-35 to Arizona. From the little pout on her face, I had the distinct impression that it wasn't Sonja's choice. I'm sure our MSP contingent in AZ miss her sunny smile & the opportunity to see the Gundersons at "Minnesota Night".

The USO facility at MSP does such a wonderful job welcoming the servicemen & women coming through by trying to make their stopover as pleasant as possible. We like to support the USO every once in awhile & those in attendance voted for a small donation to their cause.

A reminder that it's dues time again ~ \$5 per retiree & spouse per year is pretty reasonable. There's an updated address list available for dues-paying members. Contact me or mention it at the next luncheon.

Calendar:

Lunch the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 11:15am at The Old Country Buffet, just north of Hwy. 110 and Robert Street in West St. Paul.

NEBRASKA

GOLDEN'EARS

Omaha
Marge Edwards
12727 W. Dodge #132C
Omaha, NE 68154
(402) 691-0960



There were 39 at Old Country Buffet. Everyone seemed to have a great time. We discussed places to have our luncheons and I am very happy that we almost have our calendar full. It was good to see **Cary Manson, Rob Payton** and **Paul Steuri**.

Talked to **Mary Beveridge** and she said **Jim** was getting along fine after having a knee replacement in November. Mary also said she would be celebrating her 90th birthday on February 9th. Congratulations - you have made our 90 and older group of which there are quite a few.

Peggy Casebeer had her back surgery January 20th. We wish a fast recovery for her. She has been in a lot of pain for several months. I hope to hear from **Casey** as to how her surgery went and will give you an update at our February meeting.

Charlie Shook left me a message saying **Jerry Cooper's** wife, **Carol**, passed away December 10. That is all the information I have.

I have mentioned in the past about the wonderful organization of the Iowa Cookie Crumbs, and what they do for our military both in Iraq and Afghanistan. One of our major stores in the Council Bluffs/Omaha area (Hy-Vee) raised \$20,000 which they will donate to the Iowa Cookie Crumbs for their use in making up and sending the packages. The Cookie Crumbs this year have sent 156,000 cookies, along with other items to our military. Postage is one of their highest expenses. I am publishing their website in case any of you would like to read about their endeavors www.treatthetroops.org.

Georgia Egr phoned and added Apt. 5303 to her address. She also said she would be 94 this year.

Calendar:

March 3 - Venice Inn, hosted by **Clair & Barb Soseman**

April 7 - House of Hunan, hosted by **Marge Edwards**

May 5 - Horseman's Park, hosted by **Elaine Schreiber** and **Lorraine Stanfield**

NEVADA



LAS VEGAS GAMBLERS

Chris Czaplowski, Secy.
280 Cottonwood Dr.
Mesquite, NV 89027
(702) 346-8877
chriszc@cascadeaccess.com

Not a lot to report this month, but would like to give you some updates on retirees on the 'N' list.

Evelyn Smith Bluiett, wife of **Preston Bluiett** (LAXJL) is still recovering from surgeries at a LAS Rehab hospital. **Denny Gutwald** (LASLL) has finished his chemo and radiation treatments. **Nelma** says he has lost a little weight, but doing ok. Hoping to see him at our luncheon/meeting next week. Just heard that **Willie Bullinger** (LASCS) has colon cancer.

Lee Ricketts (LASCS) reports that he is still fight-

ing his cancer, but is doing better. **Margaret Hooker** (LASCS), staying with her daughter, Kelly, in RNO has finished another round of chemo and is looking forward to going into remission. **Lois Fox**, wife of **George** (SFOPD) is still trying to get her blood pressure under control. She blacked out, fell and cracked her head on the tile floor during the Holidays. Since they're waiting on the arrival of a new grandchild on Lois's birthday (Feb. 15th), she says she doesn't need anything to slow her down. She and George have both been so active with our Chapter thru the years.

I had the pleasure of sitting with **Muriel Cummings**, widow of **Wally Cummings** (LASMM) at a past luncheon. She is such a beautiful and warm lady. Unfortunately, she doesn't get a chance to attend our luncheon/meetings very often. Wally was such a wonderful person; we have warm memories of him. Las Vegas is enjoying some much needed rain this month. The spring desert flowers should be plentiful. Happy St. Patrick's Day to all ... don't drink too much green beer!

RENO SIERRA ROUNDUP

Pat Zoboli
5860 Lone Horse Drive
Reno, NV 89502
(775) 856-2044
zobolilady@aol.com



There were 22 attendees at our January meeting, including **Kathy Robinson's** sister Charlotte Lancaster. It was our first meeting at Austin's, after a brief hiatus. **Kathy Robinson** graciously volunteered to be our Treasurer this year while **Mary Withers** takes a break for personal reasons. Thank You, Kathy! Our treasury is in pretty good shape at the current time. It will be depleted by \$200 for our picnic deposit. It was also nice to see **Jeff Nimori** again, who is busy taking a tax class.

Just a gentle reminder, folks, that it is time to pay your 2009 dues. Thank you to those of you who paid at our meeting. For those that still owe, please send the money to **Kathy Robinson** at 3477 E. Hidden Valley Dr., Reno, NV 89502. It's \$5/person (\$10/couple). Thank you. FYI, in case you are wondering, our dues cycle runs January – December.

We have made the reservations for our picnic on August 10th at Sand Harbor. Please think about volunteering to help set up and/or coordinate supplies.

RUAEA has posted the information on its website about this year's convention in Phoenix. The web site is www.ruaea.org. The dates are May 17 – 24. The tour information has now been posted. Some of the tours include the train ride in the Verde Valley, Sedona and Scottsdale shopping. John & I will be attending the board meeting in PHX in February and will have more

to report later.

We are saddened to report the death of **Gerry Batty**, a retired Flight Officer. He died in December. No services were held but a memorial was held at the Elks Lodge on January 15th. His fellow flight officers had a nice tribute and silent toast for a fellow flight officer. **Bill Bay**, also a retired pilot and past member, died recently. He hired on at UA in 1944 and lived in Reno about 30 years.

Louise Smith won the 50/50. January birthdays were celebrated by: **Jean Stephens**, **Mary Withers**, **Duncan Scaife**, **Tamara Nagle**, **Nina Mischker**, **Ralph Mischker** and **Kathy Robinson** (who left the meeting to fly to PHX to spend a few days in the sun with relatives – 75 degrees in January –not bad!) On other trips, the **Robinsons**, **Leusings** & **Scaifes** were on Maui in December, while the **Flanagans** traveled to Machu Picchu. The **Comptons** traveled to South Carolina and had to travel there and back via different routings, which always makes it exciting.

NEW JERSEY

THE GARDEN STATERS

Newark, New Jersey

Violet Etler

15-12 Elmary Place

Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-2403

(201) 797-6610

vietler@verizon.net



Well, the Gardenstaters only had 15 at their meeting. The East Coast was having its seasonable weather, it snowed, it was cold and icy, so many members didn't show, including myself. So needless to say the four women and 11 guys that showed were brave souls. **John Deily**, Vice President, held the meeting, they had the usual door prizes, a nice lunch was served and everyone had a good time talking. We hope the next meeting will be better and maybe no snow storms, enough already.

Thanks to **John Deily** for taking the notes for the meeting.

NEW YORK

NEW YORK METROS

Rose Schneider

37-15 255th St.

Little Neck, NY 11363

(718) 229-0626

semschn@yahoo.com



The Ground Hog saw his shadow on the 2nd of February. The New York Metros will have six more weeks

of winter weather, which caused many members to stay home from this month's get-together. Thirty-three members braved below zero temperatures, maybe cabin fever too, to attend our first meeting for 2009.

We had two guests that became members. **Alex Nepogoda** retired JFKMK and **Lee Marcus**, sister of **Harvey Block**, a retired TWA LGACS. Both were welcomed with great approval from the membership.

One December 2008 Birthdays that was missed that I would like to acknowledge. **Mary Shepherd** was 88 on the 15th. The song popular when she was born was "Swanee" sung by Al Jolson.

January and February Birthday Greetings: **Terry Zabarauskas** turned 80 on the 3rd of January, "More Than You Know" was the popular song in the good ole days. **Jean Donahue** will be 94 years young on the 13th, the men were whistling "There's A Broken Heart for Every Light on Broadway" back in 1915. **David Curtin** was 81 on Ground Hog's Day, "I wanna Be Loved by You" sung by Helen Kane was a big hit back when. **Ruth Olenick** was born on the 6th of February, 1928 when "Makin' Whoopie" was sung by Eddie Cantor. **Frank Kittle** will be 85 on the 9th of February and the popular song that was sung was "Hard Hearted Hannah the vamp of Savannah."

Happy Anniversary wishes to **Gerry & Dominic Rizzo** wedded 59 years on Feb. 25th and to **Clara & Artie Wilsdorf**, married 55 years on the 28th of Feb.

Chapter President **Jim Richardson** received a note from **Lee Ricci**. She & Lou were in an auto accident that totaled their car and almost (by the grace of God) took them. She's home after 10 weeks in rehab. She fractured her pelvis in 3 places, broke 3 ribs, and fractured her lower vertebrae. Lou broke 5 ribs and further compromised his muscular deterioration. He's still in the East Neck Nursing Home in West Babylon.

Lee continues to thank the Metro members for their prayers, cards, flowers and gifts and their on going support.

Vice President **Charlie Kaczynski** continues to inform the Metros of the goings on with United Airlines and always finishes with a repertoire of jokes and funny stories. Keep up the good work Charlie!

Paul Cohen is accepting the annual dues for 2009 from the New York Metros. The chapter's dues is \$5.00 per member. This is not for the national RUAEA organization which is now \$25.00.

The winners of the 50/50 this month are President **Jimbo Richardson**, Vice President **Charlie Kaczynski** and **Roy Portelli**. Congratulations Guys!

Thank you, Jimbo, for the outstanding job you did writing the minutes and sending them to Denver for publication in the RUAEA Newsletter while I was incapacitated.

Several people were inquiring about **Tom Dorian**,

LGACS office supervisor. Where in the world is Tom Dorian? If any one knows please contact me at the above address etc. so I can pass the information to his old co-workers.

The 2009 RUAEA convention this year will be held in Phoenix, May 17-24.

Calendar:

March 4 - 12 noon, Millerridge Inn

April 1 - 12 noon

May 6 - 12 noon

OHIO



BUCKEYES

Cleveland, OH

Sharon Garrah

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Lagrange, OH 44050

(440) 775- 3558

slgarrah@aol.com

In the wee hours of Feb. 5th, Mother Nature in all her glory decided to dump a foot of snow or better, depending on where you resided in the Cleveland area. The surrounding cities were not prepared for the large amount of snow. The Cleveland airport was closed for a period of time, roads were very treacherous, etc. Hope you snow birds are enjoying yourselves. I often think about how nice it would be to head south for the winter, but the right time never comes.

Our monthly luncheon at Dimitri's Restaurant was planned for that snowy day. **Dolly & John Taucher** were to host the luncheon. Needless to say they were deluged with calls from chapter members who had to cancel. After contacting Dimitri's and Pres. **Carol Hacker**, they all agreed it would be best to cancel the luncheon. Pres. **Carol Hacker** and **Dolly & John** started calling the rest of the names on their list to notify them that the meeting was cancelled. If they were unable to talk to someone, they left a message on their answering machine. John & Dolly would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding. **Thank You** Dolly & John for the time and effort put forth to contact the members.

Treas. **Dolly Taucher** mailed the packets on Feb. 6th. The packet will contain a refund check for those of you that had prepaid to attend Dimitri's. All of the members who agreed to have their 2009 dues taken out of the return check will receive a receipt for the subtracted portion of that check stating your dues were paid. Thank you Dolly & John for all the work that goes along with getting the packets ready to print as well as having them printed. We are very appreciative of your hard work & dedication. A special "Thank

You" to **Taylor Schneider** who is Dolly & John's granddaughter, who folded, stuffed & labeled all the packets. She is an 8th grader and this was her community service project for her confirmation class.

I talked to **Shari Herman** recently and was happy to hear that Bob has completed his rounds of radiation & chemo. Bob has been through an awful lot. He will have a PET scan in 6-8 weeks to evaluate the situation. If you would like to send a card, his address is 32945 Mills Rd., N. Ridgeville, OH 44039-2351. I know how it brightened my day when I received cards when I was diagnosed with cancer. Shari is a great caregiver and her health is improving.

In the past few months, we have had the passing of non-member **Herman Kline & Shirley Karner** and chapter members **Glenn Vannoy & Tom Seaman**. Our thoughts of deepest sympathy go out to your loved ones. May you find the loss that you now bear is lessened in some way by all the thoughts that are sent your way. God Bless!

Have you visited our website lately? John & Dolly have been busy adding additional info on the Buckeye's website. When you have some spare time, please log on to www.ualohiobuckeyes.org.

Guess who is celebrating their 60th Anniversary? It's **Ray & Carol Waldron**. **Robert & Beverly Templeton** are celebrating 51years. God Bless you all & many more happy years of wedded bliss.

Calendar:

March 4 - Old Oak Bible Church in Middleburg Hts., Gather at 12 noon & luncheon served at 12:30PM, pre-paid.

April 1 - Flair Restaurant & Café at 12841 State Rd. (Rt.94), N. Royalton. Gather at 12:00 noon, pre-paid.

OREGON

OREGON DEW-ER'S

Portland

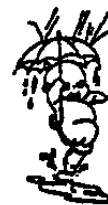
Barbara M. Heidegger

13848 NE Milton

Portland, OR 97230

(503) 254-5018

DuaneBabal@aol.com



It is amazing what two sunny days can do to lift up your spirits. I know, winter isn't over but spring is not too far away. Thinking of nice days, the site of our summer picnic has been decided and will be at the Red Sunset Park in Gresham.

Thanks to **Dee & Bob Boelter**, there were table decorations at our January meeting. The small vases with flowers were raffled off along with our monthly drawings. The Door Prize was won by **Margaret Bor-**

bely; Birthday, **Pat Ogden**; Anniversary, **Lorie & Gene King**; and 50/50, **Jean Sperb**.

What a milestone **Mac Heywood** has accomplished. Mac celebrated his 100th birthday on February 13th. He and his wife **Naomi** regularly attend our meetings and it is a delight to see him looking so well. I am certain a lot of people remember his love of golf and were fortunate to play a round with him.

It was announced at the meeting that **Rance Ishibashi** has been hospitalized with leukemia and I just recently learned that **Alvin (Ken) Anderson** was in the hospital in Chicago and came home to be hospitalized in Portland and now is in a care facility. If you would like to send cards, please send them to their home addresses. Rance's is 12152 SE Knapp Ln., PDX, OR 97236 and Ken's is 4470 NW Neskowin, PDX, OR 97229. **Betty McBride** fell and broke her wrist but she is doing fine.

Just a reminder, if you haven't paid 2009 Dew-er's dues, they must be paid by March 15th to have your name listed in the 2009 roster. Single \$7.50 and couples \$10. Please make your check out to RUAEA and mail to **Rosalie Betschart**, 220 NE 116 Ave., Portland, OR 97220.

The travel desk at PDX is open 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Mon/Wed/Fri (503) 249-4142 and (503) 249-4143 for the PDX area. Calls from outside our (503) area code please use 1-888-278-7038. They can assist you with listing and load information.

Calendar:

Meetings at Refectory Restaurant, 1618 NE 122nd Ave., Portland OR 11AM Social Hour, Lunch 12:00 PM

March 11 - St. Patrick's Day celebration

April 8 - Social

May 13 - Social

OUR CLUB

Southern Oregon
Jane Frincke
1000 Peco Road
Grants Pass, OR 97526
(541) 472-9212
jjfor@rascal.cc



OUR Club's January 9 luncheon meeting was held at The Beacon in Grants Pass with **Harry & Barbara Horne** hosting. We had 22 members and guests attending including **Wayne Widrig's** brother, Carl, who was a United pilot before retiring. It was fun to catch up with everyone after the holidays and even more fun to do it over good food.

Wayne Widrig hosted the February 6 meeting at Elmer's Restaurant in Medford. The 15 who attended certainly appreciated the festive Valentine decorations and individual candy dishes that Wayne and his friend,

Jacquie, provided for us. We were particularly glad the luncheon was held in Medford because it gave us the chance to enjoy some of the Medford members, like **Howard & Betty Ballash**, whom we hadn't had the good fortune to see in a while.

Gidget Walcha, wife of retired purser **Ric Walcha**, is a recently retired professional dog behaviorist. She's been conducting dog training classes in Grants Pass and donating all the class fees to the local animal shelter, where she also works as a volunteer. How much fun to have our own "dog whisperer."

It is with great pleasure and heart that we wish **Mary Crees** the best birthday yet as she celebrates her 90th in February.

We hear frequently from **Robert & Judy Machado** who are currently soaking up the warm Arizona sun and thoroughly enjoying being fulltime RV'ers.

The first part of the year seems to be a good time to remind everyone of OUR Club's schedule. The chapter has social luncheons the first Friday of each month, combining those with quarterly business meetings in March, June, September and December. I always welcome inquiries and can be reached at the telephone number or email address shown above.

Calendar:

March 6 - TBA - **Laurie Jordan**

April 3 - TBA - **Peggy Wilson**

May 1 - TBA - **Neal & Sonnia Appleton**

PENNSYLVANIA

THE INDEPENDENTS

Philadelphia, PA
Dee Burrs
2618 Silverside Road
Wilmington, DE 19810
Phone: (302) 478-2221
Fax: (302) 478-1268



Just a reminder to all of our Independents. We resume our meetings in March. We always meet the second Monday of the month at the Ramada Inn near the Philadelphia airport at 12:30 PM. We will meet March, April, May and June then break for the summer. So, we hope to see you on March 9th.

I heard from **Frank Egges**. He is recovering from back surgery and doing well. Frank asked me to thank everyone who sent in checks for the memorial. All the funds are being used for the chapel as opposed to the pavilion. Our records show that we have donated \$6000.00 so far. You have all been so generous.

For those who have never been there, the chapel is a small church that was renovated by volunteers on the way to the crash site. It is dedicated to the Memorial

and contains photos and memorabilia from those who perished on Flight 93.

If you want to make a donation to the chapel fund, make a check payable to "FLIGHT 93 CHAPEL MEMORIAL" and mail it to: **Frank Egges**, 3405 West Chester Pike B307, Newtown Square, PA 19073. Please be certain that your file number, name and address are on your check.

Calendar:

February 23 - Committee meeting, 12:30PM at the Edwards

March 9 - General meeting, 12:30PM at the Ramada Inn



PITTSBURGH PIT-STOPPERS

Jeri Juth
1900 Truman Dr.
Aliquippa, PA 15001
(724) 378-3316
jmjuth@hotmail.com

Well, who can dispute we are truly the "City of Champions". What a thrilling victory against a truly competitive team. Word here has it that a certain RUAEA director "cleaned up" on the outcome of the game. Way to go "T".

Guess ole Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow which means six more weeks of winter - Brrrr!

Congratulations to **Al "Pal" Larimer** on his recent retirement from Sam's Club after 11½ years. Al was the recipient of numerous awards for outstanding service both on and off the job. Good luck my friend.

Locally, the Pit-Stopppers will have celebrated Valentines Day on Feb. 20th at which time some of the newly retired UALer's will be honored, more on this next month. Just a reminder to all of you talented craftsmen and artists, the PHX convention will soon be upon us and they are eagerly accepting all donations. Also, the February newsletter has all of the Convention tour info and applications. If you're planning on attending, be sure to get your info in early. Sounds like fun and I am sure the weather will be great.

By the time we go to press, **Fred Riedel** will have had his knee replacement surgery. I know he would love to hear from all of his friends throughout the system c/o 120 Treeview Dr., Coraopolis, PA 15108. His phone number: (412) 264-7661. I hear **Mac Crampton** is doing fine after her surgery on Jan 5th. Hope to see ya at the luncheon.

Calendar:

April 17 - Luncheon - JW Hall's

July 17 - Annual Picnic - Robinson Park

TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE ROCKY TOPS

Herman Emmel
865 Lakeview Drive
Sharps Chapel, TN 37866
(865) 278-3482
bhemmel@aol.com



Puleo's Grill in Knoxville was the location of our January 15th Luncheon and Meeting. We had a chance to visit with each other before lunch as we had a sunny room off to the side of the main dining room. Herman and I picked Puleo's Grill, as it is one of our favorite restaurants for lunch.

As of our meeting date, **Cecil Adkins** was hoping to go home from rehab in a few weeks. **Les Rines** had rotator cuff surgery a couple of months ago. After surgery, his right hand "didn't wake up" and he has no feeling in the hand and is unable to drive. He had an appointment with a neurologist to see what they can do for him. Both **Bob & Sylvia Rotiski** are in poor health and our prayers go out to them.

On the bright side, Herman was released by the Cardiologist to go back to full activity. They are going to treat his other two arteries with medicine and will not be doing anything with them unless he starts having problems again. He is feeling really good and is happy to be able to do everything again. **Robbie & Joe Corbin** have checked out the dates for going back to a matinee performance at the Cumberland Playhouse. We all voted to change our meeting date to May 19th to see "Smoke on the Mountain". I was the lucky winner of the 50/50 drawing. Instead of door prizes, we brought sweet valentine treats for everyone.

Calendar:

March 19 - Hosted by **Don & Jacque Jeacock**, (865) 995-9367, Green Meadows Country Club. Guest speaker from Haven House/Home for abused women. Further details will be mailed out.

April 16 - 9:30 AM Breakfast at Shoney's Restaurant on Lovell Rd. in West Knoxville. Take Exit 274 off I40-75 toward Kingston Pike for one block.

May 19 - **Robbie & Joe Corbin** are hosts, (931) 456-2790. We will have Lunch at Beef & Barrel in Crossville and then attend a matinee performance of "Smoke on the Mountain" at the Cumberland Playhouse. (Crossville is on Central Time - Note: This is Tuesday instead of our usual Thursday meeting.)

It is better to spend money like there's no tomorrow than to spend tonight like there's no money!

-Irish Coast

UTAH



THE SALT LAKERS

Brigitte Murdock
1505 S. Roxbury Rd.
Salt Lake City, UT 84108-2844
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ettigirb24@q.com

On Feb. 3, 20 SLC chapter members met over coffee & donuts, donated by Chapter President **Clair Anderson**. Thanks, Clair!

We welcomed our regulars who make it all worthwhile, and we welcomed others who cannot come to every meeting. **Shirley Scown** was accompanied by son Mike; recently widowed **Maureen Seikaly** brought her son Germanus, known as "Jerry". Also welcomed were two former F/As who retired in 2003 out of SFOSW & moved to Utah: **Kit Laurel Herron** & **Rosemary Anastasion**. **John Wishart** joined our group; he retired out of Orlando/FL in 2003, at which time he returned to SLC. **Lila Maughan**, although not feeling quite up-to-par, visited & reported that our "other regular," **Betty Davis** (801-676-9961 - our "Mrs. Fields Cookie Lady"), was still suffering from bruises received in a recent fall at the home she shares with her daughter Sheila. Our good wishes for a good recovery, Betty!

Kip & George Lufkin had a wonderful tourist week in Bastogne/Belgium; the weather was cold, but nice. **Keith & Nancy Tronier** brought an old United "Our Times" magazine, dated 6/14/2000, in which UAL proposed to buy US Airways. It makes for interesting reading, especially in our today's view of "The Miracle on the Hudson" story -- with US Airways Capt. Chesley Sullenberger at the airplane-gliding helm! This expertly handled "incident" is also written about by various on-board passengers; their touching reports are circulated on the Internet. Capt. Sullenberger was interviewed by reporter Katie Couric on "60 Minutes", aired on 2/8/09.

UAL retiree **Nancy Tronier** also told a good story of her own: When, in the late 1960s/early '70s, UAL finally opened its "gates" to lady Ramp Service employees, she was the first one to serve in such capacity at the SLC AP. She related that lots of ribbing came her way - but, being the kind of person she still is -- she cheerfully weathered the storm & came to enjoy her new job & her male coworkers. She also brought old Ramp photos to the meeting, to be passed around. Other old-timers' stories, pertaining to their long-ago involvement in the growth of United Airlines, came from **Tom Woolley** (died in 1998) & retiree **Adrian Delfino**. Tom's recollections were gathered/written down by this correspondent about 10 yrs. ago and covered the period between 1929 to Tom's retirement year of 1973. Re-

cently, contact was made with UAL retiree/author **Adrian Delfino** who is researching material for his new book on the history of United Airlines in the context of Aviation. Both, Tom & Adrian, have related tidbits to this SLC Secy. About their work for UAL in setting up "Lamsa Air Lines" in mid-1944. It makes for interesting reading about those Days of Old when new inventions & developments were to be evaluated & new manuals to be written from Zero! **Tom Woolley's** material is presently being readied by his daughter Bonnie Bohn to be shipped to **Tom Goodyear** who is head of the United Airlines Historical Foundation (UAHF) in DEN.

Calendar:

March 3 - Lunch, 2pm - Chuck-A-Rama, 212 S. 500 W. Bountiful;

April 7 - Coffee Time - 9:30am - Murray Heritage Ctr., 10 E. 6150 S., Murray;

May 5 - Lunch - 2pm - Golden Corral, 7200 S. 700 E., SLC.

WASHINGTON

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS

Seattle
Dee O'Donnell
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Kirkland, WA 98034
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addyjohn@hotmail.com

EMERALD CITY SLICKERS



Member **Evalena Hatcher** appeared on local television over the Christmas holidays in her role as a USO volunteer at Sea-Tac Airport, assisting American Airlines with their Snow Bunny flights to Disneyland for families of our military who lost a parent to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Evalena, **Doris Spence** and **Art Thompson** are three of our members who have volunteered many hours at the airport over the years, helping our military men and women. Art was hospitalized in Jan. and then recuperated at home. We all signed a get well card to him that Evalena brought to our meeting.

One of United's early flight attendants, **Cleda Mae Tipton**, passed away in her West Seattle home January 14th at the age of 90. She joined United in the 1930s when flight attendants had to be registered nurses and while based in Portland, she met her first husband, **Phil Klett**, who also worked for United. Marriage meant that, according to United's policy at that time, Cleda had to give up her flying career but she remained active in Clipped Wings and served as its president. Later, she moved to the Seattle area and returned to nursing and married her second husband, **Frank Tipton**. Both of her husbands pre-deceased her.

Our January meeting was held on the 21st so members could watch the presidential inauguration, and 56 members and guests attended our luncheon at Fairwood Country Club in Renton. **Mary & John Luke** were our hosts, and we had several guests: **Jean Mathisen** from AARP, our guest speaker, **Jerry & Mary Lou Barr**, who moved to our area from Tellico Village, TN where they were active members of the Rocky Tops chapter, **Sallie Thiessen** and **Janet Lawhead**, both retired from SEARR. The Barrs, Sallie and Janet ended up joining our chapter and we're very happy to welcome them to our group. There was another much younger guest at our luncheon – **Harper Kate Soffel**, the 3-month-old granddaughter of **Carol Soffel**. Harper was very well-behaved, and slept a good part of the luncheon.

Phyllis Bowman has accepted the position of Chapter VP, she has a lot of energy and good ideas to share. Phyllis & her husband **Herald** are long-time active members of our chapter. Herald worked for United 38 years and has been retired 25 years. One project on Phyllis' list is to publish an updated chapter directory.

Our guest speaker at our January meeting talked about various fraud schemes that we seniors should be aware of and recommended protective actions to take, such as using lockable mail boxes, shredding personal papers and not carrying your Social Security and Medicare cards in your purse or wallet. Make a photocopy of your Medicare card, cross out the number and keep the letters A or B and carry the photocopy instead. Also, request your free credit reports from the three credit bureaus on a regular basis to make sure no one is committing fraud with your credit. She cited many examples of how people have been cheated out of their money. It was quite an eye opener.

Door prize winners were **Noreen Krawczyk, Ken Walters, Ray Dapp, Dick Waterous, Jean Mathisen, Ken Story, Dona Westpfahl, Jerry Gogulski, Bud Dice, Evalena Hatcher** and **Phyllis Bowman**. The 50/50 winner was **Sallie Thiessen**. **Maury Erben** assisted with the drawings.

Sadly, the day after our meeting, one of our members who had been in attendance was found dead in his home. It was **Chris Thompson**, who was retired from SEARR and lived alone in Seattle. The Seattle police began an investigation of his death as a possible homicide. This was shocking news to us all. Then little more than a week later, another retiree from SEARR lost her life unexpectedly. On January 30, **Sue Peek** and **Vera Cook**, both retired from SEARR, were struck head-on in an automobile accident caused by a reckless driver, apparently under the influence, who crossed into their lane at a high rate of speed. Both Sue and Vera were taken to the trauma hospital, where Sue later died. Fortunately Vera's injuries were not as serious. These incidents have been sobering to us all.

Lu Gardiner, the editor of our chapter newsletter, the Contrails, has started emailing the newsletter to our members who subscribe to receive it online. It downloads quickly in Adobe format and speeds up the distribution, as well as saves on handling and postage. This new approach works well and has received a favorable response. The convention issue of the national newsletter arrived in our homes, and a number of our members have begun planning their activities for the Phoenix convention. There are so many good tours to choose from. It should be a lot of fun.

Calendar:

March 10 – Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

April 14 – Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

May 12 – Luncheon Meeting, Fairwood Country Club, Renton, WA

June – No Meeting

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE DULLES LOUNGERS

Mari McColl
1517 Hiddenbrook Drive
Herndon, VA 20170
(703) 471-8218
marimccoll@aol.com



Attention United Airlines retirees, spouses, and friends! You are cordially invited to an afternoon of good food, good conversation, and good company at the Golden Corral in Manassas (10801 Bulloch Drive). If the weather is bad, check the news. If the Prince Williams Schools are closed on luncheon day - the meeting is canceled.) Right now – put March 11, 12:30pm on your calendars. We want to see you there.

The January luncheon was well attended despite the frigid weather. Over 90 members brought in our New Year. Winners of the drawings at the January meeting were: **Don Dean, Sharon Tinney, Sandra Bateman, Shirley Seitz, Jack Michaels, Marilyn Marcy** and **Sharlene Bradshaw**. And the winner of the 50/50 money was **Jim Stallard**. Congratulations to all!

Linda Scriven is running for the position of RUAEA Southeast Regional Director. Those of us, who know the work that Linda has put into our Loungers' group, are pleased to support her in RUAEA. (If you're not a RUAEA member, please contact **Marilyn Marcy** (mmarcy99@cox.net) or pick up an application at our next meeting.)

Be sure to show your retirement card whenever you are flying – even on a paid ticket. Ask **Dick Libby** about his upgrade!

Our injured soldiers at Walter Reed Hospital need mittens. If you are able to knit or crochet a few pairs, please contact **Kerrie Schneider** (els1986@comcast.net – 703/369-1561). The mittens can be of any color and pattern, but they do need to be large enough to cover a wounded hand and bandages. No gloves please. Our soldiers and Veterans are invited to sporting events, restaurant meals, etc., but they must have something to keep their injured hands warm. It's the least we can do for our heroes.

David Bryce is home now and feeling better after his heart attack. He and **Dee Dee** would love hearing from his friends at United. The address is: 513 Northampton Blvd., Tom's River, NJ 08757-2424.

Shirley Crawford (DCARR/IADRR) had a stroke in November. On Christmas Eve, she fell and broke her left wrist and left hip. She is now home after having the hip replaced and is currently undergoing physical therapy. If you would like to send her a card, her address is: 293 Grand Villa Drive, Weems, VA 22576.

Alma Baker's funeral was held January 30 in Norwalk, Ohio. She will be missed. Condolences may be sent to: The family of Alma Baker, 2755 Old State Road, Norwalk, OH 44857

For more member updates, see our website: www.dullesloungers.com, "Sunshine News". Check out the information for retirees and travelers under the News section. Many thanks to our webmaster, **Bud Reed**.

Please contact any of our Lounger officers with information about illnesses, deaths, special events, anniversaries, or whenever news should be shared with others: **Linda Scriven**, 703/729-8616 or UALEMP5936@aol.com; Mari McColl, 703/471-8218 or Marimccoll@aol.com; Judy Dunlap, 703/689-0653.

Special Note from **Linda Scriven**: Don't forget to save your Betty Crocker "Box Tops for Education" for the Pace West School. Thanks!

Until next time. Fly Safe!

Calendar:

March 11 - Dulles Loungers meeting: 12:30pm at the Golden Corral in Manassas (10801 Bulloch Drive).

NATIONAL

CLIPPED WINGS®

Barbara Vincent
National Vice President
81-837 Contento
La Quinta, CA 92253
(206) 605-6902
bvincentps@aol.com



The Special Olympics World Winter Games in Boise, Idaho, Feb 6-13, 2009 was a tremendous experi-

ence for over 70 Clipped Wings members and friends. We volunteered where we could and hosted a reception for the parents of the participating athletes just before the closing ceremony. We have been hosting receptions for parents at International and National Special Olympics Games since 1987. Many thanks to the committee who organized our efforts: **Marta Morgan Rash** (MAL), **Rosalie Betschart** (PDX) and **Diana Ferber Baker** (ORD). Our next group involvement with Special Olympics will be for the National Summer Games in Lincoln, NE, July 18-23, 2010.

The Clipped Wings® airplane scarf has been sanctioned as an optional part of the UA Flight Attendant uniform. Sales are going very well. If you are interested in purchasing the scarf either for yourself or for a gift, contact **Cheryl Mullins Jensen** (SMF) rjensen148@aol.com. Each scarf is \$20 plus \$1.50 shipping. Proceeds raised from the profits of the airplane scarves go to support Special Olympics.

We are having great response from prospective members visiting our website. Please check us out at www.clippedwings.com. As the National Vice President, **Barbara Fisk Vincent** (SEA), I will be happy to answer any membership questions from all prospective members. Please contact me at bvincentps@aol.com.



Attention All Golfers

The 2009 UARGC Golf Invitational will be held in Mesquite, NV from May 4th to May 8th.

If you are interested, contact **Frank Callahan**: 19833 N. Calypso Lane, Sun City, AZ 85373, (623) 815-6899, uargc@cox.net. Registration form is available on www.ruaea.org

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO RUAEA! We hope you will enjoy the activities and camaraderie. The organization would appreciate hearing from you on your renewal date

Alberts, Donald, ORDOO, 12825 Ash Ct., Huntley, IL 60142
Anderson, Robert, ORDFD, 5311 Saddleback Ct., Lady Lake, FL 32159
Bateman, Sandra, IADCS, 34170 Kimble Dr, Bluemont, VA 220135
Bell, Jerry Lee, WHQHH, 17917 SE 86th Auburn Ave, The Villages, FL 32162
Carroll, Dennis F., DCAFO, 7007 Beechwood Dr., Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Craig, Joanne, ORDCS, 990 N. Lake Shore Dr. #4A, Chicago, IL 60611
Dean, Judy, LAXUA, P.O. Box 1566, Tuolumne, CA 95379
Deyoe, Jane O., DENCS, 1560 Findlay Way, Boulder, CO 80305
Duncan, Joseph R., BHMOZ, 2641 1st Street N.E., Centerpoint, AL 35215
Durkin, Thomas, ORDMM, 6607 N. Ottawa Ave., Chicago, IL 60631
Duwe, Jane M., SFOSW, 3694 Oceanside Dr., Greenbank, WA 98253
Ellis, Candace, IADSW, 1705 Paoli Pike, West Chester, PA 19380
Fernandes, Dale, JFKFO, 7855 SE 171st Harleston St., The Villages, FL 32162
Fowler, Donald H., OPBVV, 21635 W. Highland Dr, Lake Zurich, IL 60047
Glasco, Susan, DCASW, 11401-H Gate H Gate Hill Pl., Reston, VA 20194
Glavin, Janet, MIASW, 1796 Boca Raton Ct., Punta Gorda, FL 33951
Hamilton, Joan, IADSW, 5112 Bradfield Dr., Annandale, VA 22003
Harm, Ray Dean, SFORR, 23124 Gold Springs Dr., Columbia, CA 95310
Hunding, Susan, WHQIM, 5355 Whitetail Ridge Ct., Boonville, IN 47601
Manou, Leon, SFOPD, 18660 Mcfarland Ave., Saratoga, CA 95070
Michael, Tolbert J., IADCG, 142 Bonnings Dr., Winchester, VA 22603
Moller, Marcie, COSOZ, 2656 Castle Crest Dr., Castle Rock, CO 80104
Murphy, Roberta, WHQVP, 210 Grandview Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL 60237
Nordell, Kathleen, SFORR, 6250 N. 19th Ave. #178, Phoenix, AZ 85015

Nordmeyer, Paul F., ORDMM, 2080 Carling Rd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
Omori-Morita, Tomoko, LAXSW, 7663 Larkspur Dr., Buena Park, CA 90620
Pavilionis, Charles J., ORDGQ, 385 Payson St., Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
Perreault, Jacqueline, SFOSW, 398 Wilson Ln., Grants Pass, OR 97526
Schmidt, K. Natasha, ORDCS, 3668 W. Saratoga Ct. Reunion, Florence, AZ 85232
Schreiber, David, IADFO, 105 Britney Ln. S.E., Rome, GA 30161
Shikari, Maleka, WHQAN, 7541 Wilton Rd., Darien, IL 60561
Stemper, Charles, PDXCS, 1108 NE 101st Ct., Vancouver, WA 98664
Tinsley, William D., HNLCS, 2611 Ala Vai Blvd. Apt. 2304, Honolulu, HI 96815
Vogt, James N., SEACG, 33923 135th Ave SE, Auburn, WA 98092
Winning, Bruce, IADPV, 15469 Fox Chase Ln., Culpeper, VA 22701

CONTRIBUTIONS

The association acknowledges contributions to the postal fund from the following members:

Dominic J. Abbriano, Robert H. Ackerman, David L. Adams, William (Bill) F. Alenson, Robert C. Anderson, Michael L. Bailardo, Shirley J. Bailey, Jim Barnett, David P. Barry, Patricia A. Bates, Carolyn N. Baumgartner, Sharon K. Beck, Barbara A. Bell, Matthew R. Biggs, Josephine A. Blaszak, Paul W. Bluethner, Richard D. Boatwright, Diane A. Bowen, Esther Broderon, Robert Brumage Jr., Paul T. Burton, Francis R. Callahan, Gerald R. Campbell, Vic A. Carnevale, Bryant E. Chapman, Gary E. Church, Joseph D. Cleary, Dorsey E. Cooper, Bobby A. Cox, Helen K. Crowley, Ida C. Cummins, Ingeborg Cupak, Gail H. Curran, Russell C. Currier, Wava Dalmadge, Margaret A. Danbury, Doyle L. Daniel, Stephen R. Davis, Eilene Debelak, Pete Dell, Joseph M. Donnelly, Adam L. Dorazio, Lee E. Edwards, William A. Engler, Jeannie Evans, Robert Fatovic, Bela Fejer, E. Corinne Geppert, Robert R. Germaine, Czeslaw Groch, Joe B. Harris, Ralph Hastings Jr., Gerald T. Hayashi, Emily J. Henderson, Deanne A. Henning, Trevor Hewes, John R. Hildebran, Mary T. Horan, Ronald J. Huhn, H. R. Ingram, Kikuko N. Ishida, Georgia A. Johnson, Bobby E. Jones, Elsie P. Kaenel, Harvard D. Kauffman, Raymond E. Kern, Larry A. Knaub, Robert A. Koester, Ingrid Kohler, Vincent R. Krejchi, Alfred H. Kregulec, Carol L. Kuhn, Katherine L. Larsen, Geryl Levelle, Henry Lopez-Cepero, George

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OBITUARIES

Obit Notice Policy: *Death notices sent to the Denver Office for publication in the Newsletter Obituary Column will be accepted only from a family member or personal representative in writing.* The notice sent concerning the deceased must include:

- 1) Deceased's First and Last Name & Date of Death
- 2) File Number (if the deceased was an employee)
- 3) Last Station worked
- 4) Surviving Spouse or Next of Kin (if applicable)
- 5) Address

In addition, contact information must be included for one sending the information. If the obituary is received hand written and it is not legible, it will not be published until a clear and readable document is received in the Denver Office. The information may be sent by email (preferred) at ruaea@qwestoffice.net, fax or US Mail. Sorry, the information will not be accepted over the phone.

Please note that the above policy only applies to

death notices submitted to be published in this section of the RUAEA Newsletter.

Spouse – **BRENNE, Wilma**, on 11/15/08, wife of Lynn G. (deceased), EXO, 151 Main St., Park Forest, IL 60466

Retiree – **BULLINGTON, Elzie B.**, on 10/15/08, BWIMM, husband of Helen, 4809 Levada Terrace, Rockville, MD 20853

Retiree – **GAFFOR, John (Curt)**, on 8/2/08, WHQAS, husband of Sharon, 43W069 Carletta Ln., Elgin, IL 60123

Retiree – **HIRJAK, Michael**, on 1/18/09, JFKGQ, husband of Mari D., 1797 SE Berkshire Blvd., Port St Lucie, FL 34952

Spouse – **HUBBARD, Floyd L. (Bud)**, on 9/27/08, husband of Jo Ann (Jody), DENCS, 1334 Laurenswood Way, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Retiree – **KLINE, Herman**, on 1/22/09, CLECG, husband of Lois E., 6440 Ravenglass Way, Sarasota, FL, 34241

Retiree – **KOLAR, Patsy A.**, on 1/9/07, Last Station Worked Unknown, sister of Jacqueline J. Weigand and Sally J. Kolar, 18070 Langlois Rd., Space #214, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92241

Spouse – **LINHART, Jim**, on 1/5/09, husband of June R., JFKSW, 4501 Rivershyre Way, Raleigh, NC 27616

Retiree – **MAGEE, Richard (Dick)**, on 1/7/09, DENTK, father of Dottie Chin, 11275 Jamaica St., Henderson, CO 80640

Spouse – **MCCAIN, Billie G.**, on 2/3/09, wife of Tom McCain, SEACS, 280 Mariner Blvd., Spring Hill, FL 34609

Retiree – **RAYMER, Donald E. (Buck)**, on 1/22/09, DENMM, husband of Joan (deceased), father of Marcy, 14300 W Bell Rd #329, Surprise, AZ 85374

November 2008 Skynet Listing

ADKINS, Jack, CLEMK 11/09/08

ARNOLD, Alvin N., HNLCS 11/10/08

BALLENTINE, Edwin L., DENCN 11/11/08

BOWIE, Ralph L., SEACG 11/06/08

BRAZEE, Floyd D., DENFO 11/15/08

BRION, Larry S., BDLFF 11/30/08

BUREN, John W., LAXFO 11/05/08

CAHILL, Elaine, SEAFF 11/17/08

CRIST, Ronald, OAKUM 11/26/08

CRUMMEY, Otis W., ATLMM 11/19/08

DARLING, Harold F., LAXFO 11/02/08

DE FORD, Daniel C., SFOCG 11/22/08

DEVLIN, Richard, DENFO 11/07/08

DUNN, Thomas R., WHQAK 11/12/08

EBERT, Virginia R., ORDTK 11/03/08

FROST, Jack G., WHQFS 11/22/08

GANN, Laura T., WHQCR 11/15/08
 GILKISON, Terence J., OPBVV 11/19/08
 HALL, Leroy E., LAXFF 11/24/08
 HANAOKA, James S., SFOOV 09/18/08
 IAFRATE, Frank, JFKFO 11/21/08
 KELLEY, William L., SFOSH 11/11/08
 KNIGHT, Nancy A., SEASW 11/12/08
 LEWIS, Jacqueline, SFOSW 11/21/08
 LONG, Denise, SEASW 11/29/08
 LYONS, June A., BOSFE 10/09/08
 MC NEIL, Willie C., SFOPB 11/21/08
 MIYAHARA, Kazuo K., DENCg 11/11/08
 MORA, Ana N., SFOMK 06/29/08
 MUELLER, Robert Sanford, DENSW 11/25/08
 MUNRO, Cherie J., SFOPH 11/06/08
 NORCOP, John H., SFORR 10/03/08
 PAFF, Charles F., SFOPD 11/25/08
 RAMIREZ, Jesse, SFORQ 11/30/08
 REILLY JR., Thomas P., EWRPV 11/06/08
 ROMERO, Ernest A., SFOIQ 11/01/08
 ROSEN, Norman O., SFOFO 11/05/08
 SHEEHAN, Donald F., SFOFO 11/11/08
 SHEEHAN, Robert F., DENPV 11/09/08
 SILINSKY JR., John, CLECG 11/23/08
 SIMMONS, George H., SFOFO 11/16/08
 SPEEDY, Yvonne W., ORDHN 11/27/08
 TOMCZAK, Edmund A., SFOPP 11/27/08
 VETTER, George C., DENTK 11/21/08
 WINSECK, Paul J., SFOMM 11/02/08
 ZIKMUND, Virginia G., WHQAI 11/09/08
 ZURICK JR., Joseph A., ORDIQ 11/02/08



LETTERS

We have received Greetings & Thanks for the Newsletter from the following members:

Michael Bailardo, Shirley Bailey, Robert Brumage, Carol Cersosimo, Earl Clore, Ida Cummins, Lloyd Eber, Robert Fatovic, Dewitt Ferrell, Jr., Joe Flores, Corinne Geppert, Willaim Gibson, Betsy Hamblin, Carol Hatton, Gerald Hayashi, Peter Hom, Harold Jorgensen, Hibernia Kimmich, Donna Kopec, Jerome Kuffel, Kathie Larsen, Ray Larson, Donald Lewis, Loretta Marvett, Kay McClure, Albert Miller, Francis Murphy, Patricia Ortega, Bonnie Pearson, Mary Richards, Larry Rottet, Bill Rudarmel, Roy Rushton, Juanita Schrecongost, Pat Schultz, Dick Snyder, John Soja, Lee Storlie, Barbara Taylor, Diana Thai, Bonnie Wanderer, Vicy Young.

WE HAVE RECEIVED LETTERS FROM:

(Although we welcome the statements expressed in the many letters submitted, the comments & opinions expressed are not necessarily the convictions of the organization.)

Robert Ackerman, 10101 E. Gibbs Rd., Valleyford, WA 99036

I can't believe another year has gone by.

I am presently "snow birding" in Yuma, AZ. Here is certainly better than the 5' plus of snow, I'd have at my house in the Spokane, WA area. Now Washington State is going through the flood stage. I feel sorry for all of those folks with that problem.

Grace Bowden, 371 Clinton Rd., Coraopolis, PA 15108

On January 3rd, my husband Clair Bowden passed away in Florida. Since then, I have continued to send in my dues to receive the newsletter. I enjoy reading all the news and about the people in all of the other chapters. You do a wonderful job keeping people informed. I am so happy with the newsletter that I am renewing it for 3 more years.

Diane Good, 7185 Cleveland St., Bellaire, MI 49615-9464

2008 turned out to be a bust for me health wise. I started out with shingles, resulting in neuropathy in my foot. Next, I was hospitalized for bleeding stomach ulcers. I ended up having my stomach removed through my esophagus.

I am ready for at least five years of good health.

I am looking forward to attending functions with my UAL friends.

Herb Ingram Jr., 7373 E. 29th St. North, #E318, Wichita, KS 67228

It seems to me that I just did this a couple of months ago. Time really flies when you're having fun!

No much going on in our lives. We are just plodding along day to day, but enjoying it very much.

Our TV died several months ago and we replaced it with one of the new flat screen, HI DEF models and WOW! What a difference in the picture! It looks like we are looking out the window at the actual scenes. I can recommend it to anyone who needs a new set. Norma even says, "Even the commercials are pretty!"

I had cataract surgery several months ago. I had been putting it off for quite a while and my vision had gotten very fuzzy. Now that it is over, I wonder why I waited so long. The operation(s) themselves were no big deal and my eyesight is so much improved, it is amazing. If anyone is finding the need for it, go ahead, you won't be sorry.

United just announced more job cuts. I wonder who is left to run the airline.

Don't forget to vote!

RUAEA CANDIDATES

YEAR 2009

RUAEA is an organization for all United Airlines retirees. The management of RUAEA consists of six elected Officers and ten Regional Directors. (One Officer – Past President – serves in this capacity by virtue of formerly being elected President.) The **Regional Directors** are elected for alternating two-year terms. This year five of the Regional Director positions will be filled. These fellow retirees, elected by RUAEA members, have the duties and responsibility of running the business of RUAEA – nationally and regionally. The business to further RUAEA as an organization of retired United Airlines employees is:

- Proactive in its relations with United Airlines management;
- Effective and efficient in communicating happenings at United Airlines with members;
- Involved in and supporting local chapters;
- Developing features and benefits that are of value to retirees;
- Effective in marketing membership in RUAEA to all retirees.

We are very pleased with the quality of candidates who have agreed to run for office, for their interest, support and commitment. With the challenges ahead for United, there are likely to be changes to come which will affect retirees. RUAEA must be in a position to meet these challenges and be an effective organization in its relations with the company as well as in its relations with retirees. Each of the candidates on the ballot can and will meet this obligation.

Your involvement is to vote. It is needed as a commitment of your support for these candidates and for RUAEA. **Voting is open now through April 30, 2009.** You may vote by paper ballot and mail it in; or you may vote by e-ballot on the RUAEA website.

Your Nominating Committee

Ballot can be
downloaded
online -or-
You can vote
online using
E-Ballot
at
www.ruaea.org



Director - Southeast Region



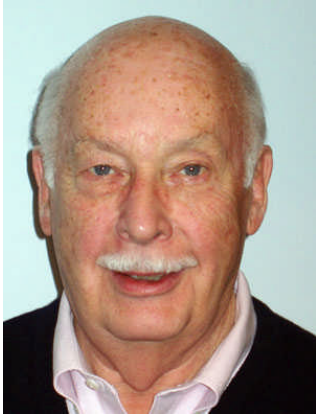
Bruce Brodersen - Bruce started with United in 1960 as a Station Agent in FAT; received an Award of Merit working at OA-KOZ; retired from AT-LOZ in 1995. Bruce has been active in the Dixie Flyers – Metro-Atlanta since retiring, serving as Pres. 2002-2005 & Newsletter Correspondent 2001-2004.

He was appointed RUAEA's Regional Director in the newly established Southeast Region in May, 2006. He has been active in the Piedmont-Fayette Hospital Auxiliary since 2001 serving as Pres. 2005-2006; is an AARP Tax Aide Preparer since 2000; & Pres. & VP of his Home Owners Association since 1999. His leisure activities include computers, reading & some traveling. He would like to see RUAEA do a better job retaining its members, get new members & be a stronger "voice" for the retirees with United's management; also explore more "givebacks" from United of benefits that have been reduced or taken away.

Linda Scriven: Except for a tour as a Sales Representative at MCOSS, Linda performed her 34-years of UAL service in the Washington, D.C. area. Starting as a Reservation Sales Agent at DCARR in 1968, her assignments also included service there as Tour Agent and at the Group Desk. At DCARR, she served as Mainliner Club President and Employee Council representative. In 1991, Linda was named Customer Service Rep of the Year. She retired in 2002 as a Service Director – Customer Service at IADCS. Outside UAL, Linda was active with the National Federation of Business and Professional Women serving locally, as President and Director, regionally as President, State Level as Chairman of several committees. Joining RUAEA upon her retirement, she became a member of the Dulles Loungers, assisted the then President with chapter management and currently serves as their President. Outside of RUAEA, her volunteer activities include proud service with Traveler's Aid at IAD. For leisure, she is occupied with water aerobics.



Director - Northwest Region



George "Jack" Hooper - Jack started his career in 1966 as a pilot in ORDFO. He retired in 1993 as Captain in LAXFO. He worked as Line Check Airman 1985-1989. Jack joined the Oregon Dewers in 1993; served as chapter Pres. 2000-2004 & is currently chapter Pres. He was appointed RUAEA's Regional Director-Northwest in May,

2006. He is Commissioner of the East County Fire & Rescue out of Washougal, Washington; & is an active member of United Airlines Historical Foundation. His leisure activities include the Vancouver Rifle & Pistol Club; reading; travel; & taking care of his 5 acres. Jack is joined in all his retirement activities by his wife Nancy. Prior to joining United, Jack graduated from Purdue in 1955 with a BSEE degree. He was a Naval Aviator 1955-1959 & in the Reserves until 1972. He worked at General Motors in the AC Electronics Division on the Apollo Program as Inertial Navigation Systems Engineer 1960-1965. He would like to see RUAEA attract & keep as many United Retirees as members as possible; stimulate chapter growth across the country; support the UAHF by promoting monetary contributions & artifacts; & establish at least one travel desk in the Eastern time zone. He would like to see RUAEA continue to be as proactive as possible while maintaining the social aspects of our organization.

Director - Northeast Region

Patricia "Treatie" Karwoski - Treatie started her career in 1958 with Capital Airlines as a Reservations Agent in NYCRR. She retired in 1992 as a Customer Services Agent in PITCS. She is an active member of the Pittsburgh Pit-Stoppers Planning Committee. Her volunteer activities include Mills Hospital in San Mateo, CA for 9 years; Special Olympics for the past 8 years for Beaver County, PA; Planning Committee for the Children's Heart & Cancer Association fund drives. She also works two days/week at Hallmark Card & Gift Store. Her leisure activities include golfing in two leagues; Bocci ball league; herb club; "Gals of 55"



group; & "Golden Girls" group whose members are retired PIT airport employees. Treatie would like to see RUAEA stimulate & unify more participation; & would like to see RUAEA recruit more "younger" members & keep the "United Family" together.

Director - Arizona Region



Charles Cole: Chuck retired in 2001 with 38 years of service. Employed at SFO as a General Overhaul Mechanic, he transferred to SEA in 1969 and remained there until retirement with the exception of two layoff transfers (to SFO and LAX for 1½ years each). He completed his career at SEA as an Aircraft Maintenance Foreman and earned an

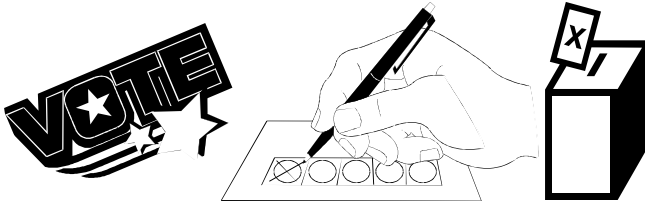
Award of Merit during his tenure. Besides membership in the TUS Roadrunners since 2002, he and wife Sharon (who also worked for UAL for 20 years), served as National Registration Committee co-chairmen for the 2004 RUAEA SEA Convention. Additional volunteer involvement is with the Arizona site steward program which is dedicated to the protection and preservation of Arizona's heritage and cultural resources. Leisure activities include travel (a great deal of which involves his and Sharon's 6 children and 7 grandchildren) as well as attending air shows, "exercising", and membership in the Sonora chapter, BMW Car Club of America.

Michael Richards: Mike was a 37-year veteran of UAL, retiring in 1998 at SEA. His career started in Ramp Service at LGA which led him to IDL, SFO, JFK, then back to LGA, EXO, SEA, LHR, ORD, SMF, SEA, BKK and finally, back to SEA with a wide variety of additional and special assignments in Station Operations, Labor Relations, Food Service, Reservations, Ticket Sales and as Country Manager in BKK. In 1975, he received a Distinguished Service Award for helping develop the Safety Management Program for that year. Following retirement, Mike was one of five retirees selected to represent management and salaried retirees in the UA bankruptcy and served on the Section 1114d committee. That group had the opportunity to work with others representing the unions and retired pilot groups in negotia-



tions that resulted in maintaining health insurance affordability for all retiree groups. Having worked with the 1114d committee affords him the opportunity to continue helping retirees with their rights under the health insurance plans. He is very proud to have served fellow retirees and designates it as the most fulfilling assignment of his career. He believes that RUAEA is on the right path and that the retiree population's voice has been a major factor in helping maintain benefits which we worked for and were promised at retirement. He wants to reinforce RUAEA's commitment to direct communication with and input from UA on all matter relating to or affecting retirees. Leisure activities include travel with wife Claudia, children and grandchildren and membership in a Genealogy Club.

Please Vote! Your Vote Is Your Voice!



RUAEA Election

Please vote and have your ballot to the Audit Committee by May 1st, 2009

You can cast your vote via:

- ☒ **Online voting at www.ruaea.org**
- or -
- ☒ **Paper ballot in this issue of the Newsletter**

Get the Newsletter HOI off the press! Sign up to receive the Newsletter on the Web today - It's updated 2-3 weeks before the paper Newsletter is mailed. Also an added benefit to receiving the Newsletter on the Web is that back issue can be accessed.

To sign up for the Web, go to www.ruaea.org and follow the instructions.

Important Phone Numbers



United Retiree Service Center

1-888-825-0188 (M-F 7AM - 5PM Central Time).

<https://www.ualretirees.com/>

<https://united.intranet.ual.com/>

For Traditional Medical, HMO or Insurance questions; report death of retiree or spouse; change of address & other forms.

Blue Cross / Blue Shield

1-800-535-9825

<http://www.bcbs.com>

Traditional Plan information, claim status & forms.

1-800-UAL-LIST (1-800-825-5478)

For flight information and to list yourself and companions for travel.

Glenn Tilton's message to employees & retirees

Go to SkyNet at <https://united.intranet.ual.com/>

Chicago Travel Desk - Toll Free

1-877-242-0035 (T/Th/Sat 9 AM - 1 PM CST)

Portland Travel Desk - Toll Free

1-888-278-7038 (M/W/F 10 AM - 2 PM PST)

Seattle Travel Desk - Toll Free

1-888-826-3375 (M/T/W/Th 10 AM - 2 PM PST)

PBGC

1-800-400-7242

<http://www.pbgc.gov>

Social Security Administration

1-800-772-1213

<http://www.ssa.gov>

Alliant Credit Union

(800) 328-1935 or (773) 462-2000 (24-hours, 7-days-a-week except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day)

<http://www.alliantcreditunion.org>

Benefits Service Center

1-800-482-5236 - For all retirees pension, travel and ESOP questions. M-F, 7-7 Central Time

Interline Ticketing Desk at DTWRR - Toll Free

1-888-874-1581

UAL Service Center (SkyNet Help Line)

1-800-255-5801

<https://united.intranet.ual.com/>

RUAEA NATIONAL ELECTION

2009

OFFICIAL BALLOT

All RUAEA members – that includes all United Airlines retirees who are members of RUAEA in good standing and Associate members who have maintained their membership – are eligible to vote and to hold office.

Please mark your ballot with an ☒ for your choice of candidates.

Sign the ballot, include your file number, enclose in an envelop and mail to the following address:

**RUAEA Audit Committee
P.O. Box 91
Concord, CA 94522**

Ballots must be received by the Audit Committee by May 1, 2009!

Vote for one person per Office:

Director – Northwest Region

☐ **George (Jack) Hooper**

Director – Northeast Region

☐ **Treatie Karwoski**

Director – Southeast Region

☐ **Bruce Brodersen**

☐ **Linda Scriven**

Director – Arizona Region

☐ **Charlie (Chuck) Cole**

☐ **Michael Richards**

Signature _____ File Number _____

Print Name _____

Ballot must be received by the Audit Committee by May 1, 2009!

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

PRESIDENT
Ron Robertson
(520) 818-3020
ronandshirley@msn.com

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mmarcy99@aol.com

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If it's time to renew your Membership, your Newsletter may contain one of the following Red Messages:

"IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP."

"DISREGARD THIS MESSAGE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID".

"YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL EXPIRE UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE RECEIVED."

"PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT AT THIS TIME."

"DISREGARD THIS NOTICE IF YOUR DUES ARE ALREADY PAID."

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PAST PRESIDENT
Mort Wax
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lormmort@sbcglobal.net

INCLUDE FILE NUMBER IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Member Annual Dues: \$20
Associate Members (widows/widowers of deceased UA retirees)
Annual Dues: \$20
Residents of Canada/Mexico (add \$15.00 U.S.)
Residents of other foreign countries (add \$20.00 U.S.)
RUAEA: 7401 E. MLK Blvd., Denver, CO 80207-2433
Email address: ruaea@qwestoffice.net
Applications can be obtained via email, US mail or from
WWW.RUAEA.ORG

**For all Membership &
Newsletter Circulation issues,
please contact Membership
Secretaries:
Phone Number: (303) 780-5022
Email: ruaea@qwestoffice.net**

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**PAST PRESIDENTS OF
RUAEA**

Tom Plunkett	1975 – 1977*
Charles Field	1977 – 1979*
Charlie Urbach	1979 – 1981*
Pate Hutchens	1981 – 1983*
Ralph Hoffmaster	1983 – 1986*
Vance Harmon	1986 – 10/2/86*(#)
(#) deceased – V.P. Lewis Long became Pres.	10/3/86
Lewis Long	1986 – 1988*
Elizabeth Ashton	1988 – 1990
William Moore	1990 – 1992
Jim Doty	1992 – 1994*
Ed Piper	1994 – 1996*
Howard Pollard	1996 – 1998
Zelma Kibler	1998 – 2000
Frank Murdock	2000 – 2002
Jim Fauber	2002 – 2004
Marlin Lade	2004 – 2006
Mort Wax	2006 – 2008

Editor Emerita - Jo Madden 1986 – 2007*

***Deceased**

Check your mailing label for Renewal Information

United Airlines Historical Foundation



"Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"

Boeing installed thirty radio transmitters along its routes between Seattle and Los Angeles and between Oakland and Chicago to communicate with its pilots.

Pilots still held their course by watching for the flashing beacons placed at 25 mile intervals, however, in bad weather pilots had to fly below the clouds to be able to see the beacons.

Pacific Air Transport pilot J. R. "Russ" Cunningham argued that if pilots could follow the radio beams from the transmitters, they could fly above the clouds and avoid dangerous terrain.



One New Year's Eve while Cunningham was flying a passenger-less Boeing 40-B from Seattle to Medford, a storm developed over Oregon. He climbed above the clouds, flying by compass but checking his direction by the strength of the radio signals from below.

At 12,000 feet he picked up a load of ice and rapidly lost altitude. At 6,000 feet, he was nearing Medford and he knew that he would not make it over the mountains.

On the way down he continued talking to the station in Medford telling the operator, "Keep on talking to me, keep talking to me". What Cunningham was trying to

do was determine the direction to Medford.

He "pan-caked" the 40B into a mountainside and slid through the snow into a tree. He was uninjured and the plane was not too seriously damaged. After he was down, he continued to sit in the cockpit listening to the signals and determined the direction of Medford.

The next morning, he set out in the proper direction, came upon an unoccupied farmhouse, "borrowed an old

car" from a shed and drove to Medford Airport.

Word got around and before long, "riding-the-beam" was a regular practice for air transport pilots.



After the radio-transmitters were re-equipped with directional beams, following the "dot-dashes" or the "dash-dots" became the standard practice.

Ninety-five percent of the time this system worked.

During the other five percent, static crackled in the pilot's earphones disrupting voices and radio range signals from below, often drowning them out completely.

After the "Electronic Flying Era" began in 1929, nearly all crashes came in this five-percent "nightmare" time. *By Marvin Berryman, DENTK (Ret.)*

This past month UAHF received donated items from: **Elizabeth Griffiths, John Ippolito, Paul Cohen, Myrt Ireson, Rhea Jaguszewski, Carol Rising, Ronald Artman, Carol Morgan, Dixie McCay, Bertram Donnelly, Barbara Anable, Jerry Warnke, Joanne Wilkins & Carlos Milner.**

Please mail your tax-deductible contributions and donations of United Memorabilia & Artifacts to: **UAHF, Tom Goodyear, 7401 Martin Luther King Blvd., Denver, CO 80207.** Previous UAHF articles at www.uahf.org.